

SOCCER

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GST INCLUSIVE



That's Four', Spirit celebrate their smashing victory over Sydney Olympic last week.

SPIRIT SMACK OLYMPIC

Pittwater Park finally had something to cheer about this season as the Northern Spirit recorded its first victory at its new home-ground with a smashing four-nil victory over cross-town rivals Sydney Olympic last week.

Four goals in the second half was what the Spirit had longed for quite some time and ended any chance of a losing hoodoo at their new home-ground.

Goals from former AIS graduate Jonty Richter, ex-Olympic star Dylan Macallister and a goal apiece from Scottish imports Ian Ferguson and Stewart Petrie was more than enough to see the home-side through.

It was an irresistible display from former Olympic star Macallister that put the Spirit on the map with their first three

points of the season.

It seemed as though the game would take a stalemate draw after both sides contested evenly during the first half however Lawrie McKinna's men pushed the turbo button and turned in a magnificent display to crush their Olympic counterparts.

For Sydney Olympic, it was a day new custodian Peco Trajceviski would rather forget after conceding some silly goals that awarded the home side the win.

Olympic coach Peter Papanikitas will surely have his work cut out in the next few weeks as the Blues search for their first victory of the season.

The big Sunday clash against Sydney United at their new home ground in Jubilee Oval will be the first side 'Paps' hopes to defeat.

Known for having a rather temperamental following of supporters, the Olympic faithful are only after their first win of the season, and anything less than that could cause a stir amongst the ranks at the club.

In other National League matches, Marconi Stallions played out a bruising one-all draw at home to Newcastle United, South Melbourne continued the Wolves' woes in the National League with a crushing four-nil victory in Wollongong, last year's champions the Perth Glory were held to a nil-all draw with the Brisbane Strikers while the Power recorded its first victory of the year with a four-one drubbing of the Kingz.

For more news and reviews with full statistics on each of the NSL matches turn to pages 6,7,8 and 15 of the ABSW.

THREE-STAR RATING FROM DODD

After entering the game as a substitute in the 27th minute, Power ace Travis Dodd unfolded one of the best matches ever played by a Power player after bagging a hat-trick in Parramatta's four-one win over the Kingz last Saturday evening at Parramatta Stadium.

Becoming the fifth NSL player to notch up a hat-trick coming off the bench, Dodd's consistency shone out superbly as the 23-year-old marked his debut goals for his new club in style.

The former Newcastle United player made an immediate impact six minutes after his initial introduction with the attacker palming the ball neatly in the back of the Kingz net.

Dodd then scored a header three minutes after his first goal from a great Lucas Pantelis cross, then finally notched up his hat-trick in the 73rd minute with a low shot that spearheaded the Power to victory.

Prior to the match, Dodd managed to rack up eleven goals in 154 matches. National League matches.

This surely is a sign of bigger things to come from the former Novacastrian who hopes for a starting position in this week's match against his former side Newcastle.

At this point in time, Brazilian ace Fernando Rech looks to sit out this week's match allowing Travis the position, however it's still early days yet.

The Power will be looking for their second victory of the year after a slow start, the signs are evident that the club can pull off the tag of being 'the team to beat' in the NSL this year.



Three's a charm, Power's Travis Dodd celebrates one of his three goals last week.

CRESCENT GAIN 'PREMIER LEAGUE' STATUS

By Mark Stavroulakis

After clinching both the Winter Super League Premiership and Grand-Final, ambitious Western-Sydney based club the Sydney Crescent Star this week were promoted into this year's elite NSW's summer Premier League.

Crescent Star will fill the void created by the relegation of the Fairfield Bulls. The Bulls will see out their new season in next year's Winter Super League after finishing bottom of the summer Premier League ladder last season.

It's been a magnificent year for the Crescent Star side under high-profile coach Yasin Ozdenak, a former Galatasaray Assistant-

Manager. Apart from winning the double, the Star also had the benefits of usually attracting 1000-plus people to their home matches at



Lidcombe Oval, an encouraging statistic for a Premier League side.

Relying heavily on the local Turkish community,

the squad will look towards furthering their achievements in SOCCER NSW's elite league when it takes on the likes of Blacktown City, A.P.I.A. Leichhardt and St George to name a few.

A new youth venture has also been set out by the club after agreeing with an alliance with fellow NSW club Parramatta City starting a new name called 'Parramatta Star'.

Fellow Premier League aspirants Fraser Park Dragons didn't make the cut this time and will remain in the Super League at least for next season.

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PLUS Our weekly wrap on the National League with Photos-Reports-Play Ratings and all the statistics from the weekend's matches.

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PAGE NSW LIFTOUT

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REVIEW ON PAGE 20 & 21

* **A FULL WRAP ON THE**
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PARKLEA ON PAGE 24

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aussiesabroad

BY DANIEL KUZIW

Big news filtered through the shores of Italy last week when the Australian duo of Nick Stavroulakis and Frank Lagana had the chance to compete against the big boys in Empoli's clash against Venezia in the Super Coppa Italia.

Lagana managed to get onto the substitutes bench while Stavroulakis was on stand-by but was on the travelling squad in case of any last minute injuries from any of the first graders.

Having the likes of Brochi and Empoli pin-up boy Antonio Di Natale on the subs bench, Lagana and Stavroulakis were over-awed by the huge experience.

The side however went down two-nil to their Serie B counterparts which in return caused major headaches in the local press slamming the players on their performances.

Birmingham City winger Stan Lazaridis is relishing being a fan's favourite at St Andrews.

The Australian international sealed Blues' win against Portsmouth last weekend with City's second goal in their 2-0 victory.

It left the fans chanting his name and he said to teamtalk.com: "When the fans are singing your name, it makes the hairs on the back of your neck stand on end."

"I do sincerely love playing for this club and I want to make sure I do well and help the club to progress."

"I'm very happy because to

score in front of the home crowd is very good."

"Scoring at the right time of the game against Portsmouth really settled things down for us. It was a very good three points against a very good team."

Lazaridis has struggled to hold down a regular place this season but he added: "We have a very good squad and sometimes when I do get left out, it's not down to my performances it's for tactical reasons to try and get three points against certain teams."

"Credit to the manager because the teams he puts out are getting three points. Whenever I do start I just want to play well and deliver when the manager wants me."

Long-serving Watford midfielder Richard Johnson has had his contract terminated by mutual consent.

The 29-year-old Australian midfielder made over 250 appearances for the Hornets after joining them as a 16-year-old.

But he has failed to hold down a regular place since suffering a serious knee injury which kept him out of the game for over a year.

Watford boss Ray Lewington told the official club website: "Richard wants first team football but we couldn't guarantee him that."

"He's an excellent character and he's been an excellent servant to the club. We wish him all the best for the future."

Crystal Palace defender Tony Popovic is set to miss the Eagles' next two games after suffering a recurrence of an old injury.

The 30-year-old is sidelined for the games against West Ham and Cardiff City.

"Tony has suffered a recurrence of tendonitis in his Achilles tendon," Palace boss Steve Kember told the club's official website.

"He had an injection on Monday which means he's going to miss our next two games."

"But we've got a ten-day break after the Cardiff match so hopefully that will give him enough time to get himself fully fit."

Meanwhile Millwall manager Mark McGhee has welcomed the resurgence of Tim Cahill, whose header earned his side a well-deserved point at West Ham early last week.

A knee injury has restricted the 23-year-old's progress since he was a target for Aston Villa. But Cahill is back to his best form and is clearly confident following his call-up to train with Australia last month.

McGhee said: "He's the one in midfield who gets forward well and has great energy. He ran the show in the second half."

"When we finished fourth two seasons ago he scored 13 goals and most of those were towering headers."

A host of clubs from The Premiership down to Division Three are tracking Australian goalkeeper Danny Milosevic and he is now considering his options.

The 25-year-old has just agreed to sever his ties with Leeds United and is now on the lookout for a new employer.

Leeds initially snapped up Milosevic from Perth in January 2001, but he failed to make the expected breakthrough at Elland Road mainly due to the emergence of Paul Robinson.



Danny Milosevic: A host of clubs are tracking him following his release from Leeds United.

He has league experience following loan spells at Plymouth, Crewe and Wolves - but is now looking to make his mark with another club.

Sheffield Wednesday and Hull City were amongst the first to express interest, but now Wolves, Crewe and Burnley are all believed to be looking at Milosevic's situation.

The player's agent David Baldwin said: "Various clubs are looking at Danny. 'Some want him as first choice, some as second and he just has to look at the options."

"A lot of things depend on the club interested and their situation."

Rangers manager Alex McLeish does not believe it is a gamble to throw skipper Craig Moore into the Champions League fray after just 45 minutes of action in the last six weeks.

The Australia international - who inherited the captain's armband once Barry Ferguson's sale to Blackburn was completed - damaged a hamstring in the second game of the season, a Champions League qualifier against FC Copenhagen.

McLeish had almost thrust him back in for the crucial second leg but realised he was not ready.

Now he is back in contention for Wednesday night's group stage game in Athens with Panathinaikos, although his comeback currently consists of just one half against Dundee on Saturday.

But McLeish insisted: "I don't think it is a gamble at all. It was different from the Copenhagen game when Craig was clearly not 100%."

"Everybody that is in the squad is fit to play, apart from Fernando Ricksen who has travelled to support the team."

"He won't be involved but every other player is available for selection."



based Aussie's making the trek to the UAE later this month for two



David Tarka: Current Nottingham Forest star has made the 22-man U20 squad bound for two friendly matches in the UAE.

friendly matches against the host nation of the U20 World Cup in November.

Hearts' Australian defender Partick Kisorbo is happy to fill in at left-back rather than twiddle his thumbs on the sidelines.

The summer signing has featured on both flanks for the Jambos since arriving at the club and is not too fussed where he plays, as long as he is involved.

He told the Edinburgh Evening News: "I didn't come to another country just to sit in the stands."

"Alan Maybury is an experienced player while Andy Webster and Steven Pressley are internationals, so left-back is probably the only spot where I can come in."

"I would rather play there than be forced to sit in the stand so if that's where I'm needed that's where I'll play. As long as I'm involved I don't mind."

Under 20's coach Ange Postecoglou selected his 22-man squad last week with seven overseas based Australians making the cut.

Inter Milan's Primavera keeper Nathan Coe, Nottingham Forest's new star David Tarka, Rot Weiss Essem midfielder Spase Dilevski, Inter's Primavera midfielder Carl Valeri, Vartek's Mile Jedinak and finally Wimbledon striker Scott McDonald are all the overseas

Marquee Adelaide United signing Ross Aloisi has revealed the new club can already pencil in the future capture of his brother, John.

Aloisi returns to Australia after over five years in Europe and is coming off an excellent season in Serie C with Pro Sesto. He told The Advertiser: "I know John would love to play for United when his career ends in Europe but I might have to hang on for another four or five years. 'When I told him I was coming home to play for United I think he was more excited than me."

"The thought of playing for a team with the support of the state and in the colours of the state is really appealing. It will be like playing for the Adelaide Crows."

"The funny thing is we have never played together in the NSL so if we could do that with United one day we'd be very happy." He added, "I played 32 matches and scored four goals from midfield last year so my form has been good."

"We have a good squad at United and there is a strong feeling we can make the finals although it might take until Christmas before we really start to take shape."

BANKSTOWN DISTRICT AMATEUR SOCCER ASSOCIATION

Under 11/12 Rep Trials

Sunday 12th October

Under 11: 9-10.30am Under 12: 11-12.30pm

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Marconi Southern District Youth League 2004

TRIALS

Grade 13 (Players born in 1991)

6.00pm Monday 13th October 2003
6.00pm Thursday 16th October 2003
9.00am Saturday 18th October 2003

Grade 15 (Players born in 1989)

6.00pm Tuesday 14th October 2003
6.00pm Friday 17th October 2003
9.00am Sunday 19th October 2003

Grade 18 (Players born in 1987 or 1986)

6.00pm Tuesday 14th October 2003
6.00pm Friday 17th October 2003
9.00am Sunday 19th October 2003

Grade 14 (Players born in 1990)

7.30pm Monday 13th October 2003
7.30pm Thursday 16th October 2003
10.00am Saturday 18th October 2003

Grade 16 (Players born in 1988)

6.00pm Tuesday 14th October 2003
6.00pm Friday 17th October 2003
9.00am Sunday 19th October 2003

- All trials to be held at CLUB MARCONI TRAINING FIELDS numbers 2 & 3
- Players must report 30 minutes prior to starting time to register.
- All players must wear correct playing equipment including shin pads.

ENQUIRIES AND FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Tommy McCulloch
Head Coach Youth Football
0416 089 604

Neville Orlando
Youth League Convener
0419 212 182



PREMIER YOUTH LEAGUE



TRIALS 2004 SEASON

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to become

HAJDUK WANDERERS UNITED SC

AND INVITE PLAYERS TO TRIAL IN THE FOLLOWING AGE GROUPS

★ Saturday, October 18th, 25th, 2003 & Saturday, November 1, 2003
U13's 11.00am, U14's 1.00pm, U15's 3.00pm
Sunday, October 19th, 26th, 2003 & Sunday, November 2, 2003
U16's 1.00pm, U18's 3.00pm

Contact: Charlie Abdilla on 0416 171 896 or John Palmano 0412 921 131

PLAYERS TO ARRIVE 30 MINUTES PRIOR
START TIMES TO REGISTER

**ALL TRIALS TO BE HELD AT HAJDUK STADIUM,
EDENSOR ROAD, ST JOHN'S PARK**

Marconi Stallions vs Newcastle United



Sunday Night
Marconi Youth vs Northern Spirit
Youth League 4.00pm Kick-Off
First Grade Kick-Off 6.30pm

Marconi Stadium



Jean Paul De Marigny
(Manager)



Angelo Costanzo



Alex Brosque



Brad Maloney



Ian Ferguson



Julian Watts



Lawrie McKinna
(Manager)

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NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

By Graham Cooke

Canberra referee Ben Wilson will be traveling to the Persian Gulf state of Qatar next month for five weeks, during which he will be officiating as an assistant to Queensland's Mark Shield.

Wilson can scarcely believe his luck with the international breakthrough. Although he has a FIFA badge as an assistant, he has never had a game outside the Oceania region.

"I have a very understanding employer," he said last week. "I had already booked some time off to watch the Rugby World Cup, but they said I could still go to Qatar."

The visit was arranged by former national referees' coach Gary Power, who left Australia some years ago to take up a similar position in Qatar.

He has since moved on to become referees' coordinator for the Asian Football Confederation, responsible for some 380,000 officials across the vast continent.

"Apparently Qatari officials had seen Mark in last year's World Cup and were very impressed," Wilson said.

"So they asked Gary to arrange for him to officiate in Qatar and to bring an assistant with him. Our national coach

nominated me, and it was so fortunate that I got the time off work."

He admits to knowing next to nothing about Qatar except that Doha was the main city and most of the teams were situated there.

"It is a very rich country and there are quite a few European players in the competition," he said. "I imagine it attracts a lot of good second-level players who can't quite make it in the top leagues of Europe."

The trip will give him the international experience he craves. "Mark has built up his reputation to the point that they asked for him by name, so if I do well there and get known it can't do any harm," he said.

He has already cemented his position on the National Soccer League officials' panel, and had his first game of the season when he, referee Ben Williams and assistant Gavin Martin formed an all-Canberra team to take charge of the Sydney United v Auckland Kingz game.

"I have chosen a career path as an assistant, so after the Qatar break I will be straight back into the NSL before Christmas," he said.

It wasn't the perfect end to a career, but the losing ACT grand final against Canberra

Deakin was definitely veteran Canberra Olympic striker Njegosh Popovich's last Premiership game.

"That's it," he said. "I made up my mind well before the final that this would be my last season. I only came out of retirement this year to help out my brother."

Toplica Popovich took over the coaching of the team at the beginning of the season as well as continuing to play in defence.

The former Canberra Cosmos NSL regular said he would not be following his brother into retirement just yet, but was unsure whether he wanted to take on the double burden again next season.

"It's very hard being a player-coach in modern football," he said. "There are so many things to think about, especially now there are three substitutes in every game. I don't think I played as well as I could in the grand final, it was hard to concentrate."

"Maybe one or the other in 2004."

The Popovich brothers have been around ACT and district soccer circles since the mid-1980s when they played in the NSL League, first for Canberra City and then for Inter Monaro.

A third and youngest brother, Arsenije, who was with them in

those early days, later moved to Sydney and gave up soccer some years ago.

Soccer Canberra chief executive Alan Lee and wife Denise have returned from a private visit to China, although Lee spent a good deal of time following up contacts made last year when he traveled on behalf of the soccer body in order to promote the Kanga Cup.

While Chinese teams signed up for the Kanga Cup, they were unable to come because of the SARS epidemic, and Lee said he wanted to assure his contacts that - disease permitting - they would be welcome to the 2004 competition.

"We would have had 10 teams this year, I believe there will be more next time," he said.

While there he was also able to begin negotiations with suppliers for top quality, low-priced footballs and uniforms for Soccer Canberra and member clubs.

All of which detracted from what should have been a holiday. To make matters worse, Lee suffered a stomach upset and was laid up for the one day set aside for private shopping in Shanghai.



Parramatta Eagles Soccer Academy

Official Youth Development Partners of Manchester United in Oceania



OPEN TRIALS

Parramatta Eagles Soccer Academy are holding Open Trials for the **2004 PREMIER YOUTH LEAGUE SEASON**

on **SATURDAY 18TH OCTOBER 2003** (one day only) at **NORFORD PARK, BOUNDARY ROAD, CHESTER HILL**

U/18	9-11AM	U/16	10-12AM
U/15	11-1PM	U/14	12- 2PM
	U/13	1-3PM	

To register please arrive 45 minutes before your trial. Canteen facilities available.

FOR ENQUIRIES CONTACT:
Chief Scout JOHN CURRAN 0405 148 254

Southern NSW Soccer



Super Youth League and Girls Youth League Trials 2004

U11 - U12 BOYS U12, U14, U16 GIRLS 10.00am Sunday, 19th October, 2003 South Nowra Soccer Fields	U13, U14, U15, U16 & U18 BOYS 1.00pm Sunday, 19th October, 2003 South Nowra Soccer Fields
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For more information, contact Joan Robertson 4861 2886 (BH)

VSF chief wants to revive all-star team

New Victorian Soccer Federation CEO Damien Bown wants to revive the all-star state team for glamour games against international club sides.

Bown told the *Herald-Sun*, "Real Madrid went to Asia for their pre-season and played in Thailand and China and Japan."

We're only another step on and it's not unreasonable to be included on

tours by the big teams to this part of the world. "Liverpool were in Malaysia complete with Michael Owen and their stars and it's not beyond us to organize a pre-season tournament involving more than one overseas side to play our state side."

"The Victorian state team should be the natural stepping stone up into the Soccer's and if we can organize games of that calibre, we'd have players

clamoring to wear the state jumper."

"Providing we put the games on at the right time, I'm sure the likes of Patrick Kisnorbo would come from Scotland to play for Victoria."

"And the same goes for Archie Thompson from Belgium or Frank Juric in Germany and Danny Allsopp in England - players who are dying to show the national coach they deserve promotion into the senior Socceroos."

Adelaide sign Stars

NSL new boy Adelaide United has gone on a signing spree, securing the services of three former Socceroo players.

United, who is yet to make its NSL debut, has added six players to its squad, including Ross Aloisi, Carl Veart and Goran Lozanovski.

United coach John Kosmina told abc.net.au that Aloisi's signing was extremely important, considering his experience in Italy.

"With Ross's experience in playing in that type of competition we'll probably look to pressurise teams," he said.

"Ross is a talker, he's an organiser, and if you're going to play that kind of football you need someone that can run the show."

"That's what I hope Ross will do for us. I know he'll do it for us."

The other three players have all been taken from the South Australian Premier League.

The full squad:

Goalkeeper: David Scarsella.

Defenders: Aaron Goulding, Kristian Rees, Michael Valkanis, Richie Alagich & Shane Thompson.

Midfielders: Ross Aloisi, Matthew Kemp,



Former Socceroo Carl Veart will continue his playing career with Adelaide United.

Goran Lozanovski, Adriano Pellegrino, David Terminello, Carl Veart, Aurelio Vidmar & Aaron Westervelt.

Strikers: Nick Budin, Mimi Saric, Shane Smeltz, Elias Demourtzidis & Sean Widera.

FIVE TO DEBUT FOR YOUNG SOCCEROOS

Australia Under-20 coach **ANGE POSTECOGLOU** last week named a 22-man squad for a two match series against the United Arab Emirates later this month.

The matches will allow the Qantas Young Socceroos to commence their final preparations ahead of the 2003 FIFA World Youth Championship to be held in the United Arab Emirates from November 27 - December 19.

The squad features 15 Australian based players and seven overseas based players. Also included are five players that are yet to make their debut for the Qantas Young Socceroos - David Carney, Jobe Wheelhouse, Mile Jedinak, Anthony Danze and Steve Pantelidis.

The 22-man Australia Under-20 Squad is:

Goalkeepers: Nathan Coe (Inter Milan, Italy), Tom Willis (Newcastle United).

Defenders: Alex Wilkinson

(Northern Spirit), Daniel Piorkowski (Melbourne Knights), David Tarka (Nottingham Forest, England), Wayne Heath (Brisbane Strikers), Steve Pantelidis (South Melbourne).

Midfielders: Spase Dilevski (Rot Weiss Essen, Germany), Massimo



Marconi's young gun striker Alex Brosque will be looking to furthering his goalscoring tally on the international scene.

Murdocca (South Melbourne), Carl Valeri (Inter Milan, Italy), Matthew McKay (Brisbane Strikers), David Carney (uncontracted), Jobe Wheelhouse (Newcastle United), Jonathan Richter (Northern Spirit), Dustin Wells (Wollongong Wolves), Vince Lia (South Melbourne), Mile Jedinak (Varteks, Croatia), Anthony Danze (Perth Glory).

Forwards: Scott McDonald (Wimbledon, England), Alex Brosque (Marconi Stallions), Michael Bajrd (Sydney Olympic), Franco Parisi (Sydney United).

The matches will be played on October 16 and 19.

Australia qualified for the 2003 FIFA World Youth Championship after winning the Oceania qualifying tournament in December last year. The 2003 FIFA World Youth Championship was initially due to be held in March/April but was postponed due to the situation in the Middle East at the time.



Manly Warringah Dolphins

Boys Youth League Trial Dates for Season 2004
Venue: CROMER PARK — 101 SOUTH CREEK ROAD, DEE WHY

UNDER 11 AND 12

Monday 20 October 5.30 — 7.30pm
Thursday 23 October 5.30 — 7.30pm
Monday 27 October 5.30 — 7.30pm

UNDER 13

****Saturday 18 October 2.00 — 4.00pm****
Tuesday 14 October 6.00 — 8.00pm

UNDER 14

Monday 13 October 6.00 — 8.00pm
Thursday 16 October 6.00 — 8.00pm

UNDER 15

Monday 13 October 6.00 — 8.00pm
Sunday 19 October 2.00 — 4.00pm

UNDER 16

Tuesday 14 October 6.00 — 8.00pm
Sunday 19 October 2.00 — 4.00pm

UNDER 18

****Saturday 18 October 4.00 — 6.00pm****
Thursday 16 October 6.00pm — 8.00pm

PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE

For further information please contact
Head Coach Sab Trovato on 0414 597545
John 0412 169 726 or Sam 0422 917 685
Ask about the new "WINNING EDGE PROGRAM"!

Bonnyrigg White Eagles Soccer Super Youth League Trials - 2004 Season

Venue: Smithfield Park - The Horsley Drive Smithfield.
Entry via Oxford Street

AGE	DATE	TIME	COACH 2004
13 yrs	Tues 14 Oct	6.00pm	MICK LALIC
	Sun 19 Oct	9.00am	
14 yrs	Tues 14 Oct	7.30pm	PAUL BURGESS
	Sun 19 Oct	10.30am	
15 yrs	Tues 14 Oct	7.30pm	IAN LLOYD
	Sun 19 Oct	12.00pm	
16 yrs	Wed 15 Oct	6.00pm	TREVOR DAVIS
	Sun 19 Oct	1.30pm	
18 yrs	Wed 15 Oct	7.30pm	JOHN KERNAHAN
	Sun 19 Oct	3.00pm	

Please Note: Each week same venue, day and time repeated for 4 weeks up to Sunday 9 November. For further information ring co-ordinator Wayne Dewberry on: 0412 162 406



2214908d 1/10 LLG



BELMORE HERCULES SOCCER CLUB

BELMORE HERCULES SOCCER CLUB
FIRST DIVISION

2004 TRIALS DATES

Under 13s 1st Division Youth League: Tuesdays 14,21 & 28 October and 4 November 2003 6-8pm
Under 14s 1st Division Youth League: Tuesdays 14,21 & 28 October and 4 November 2003 6-8pm
Under 15s 1st Division Youth League: Tuesdays 14,21 & 28 October and 4 November 2003 6-8pm
Under 16s 1st Division Youth League: Tuesdays 14,21 & 28 October and 4 November 2003 6-8pm
Under 18s 1st Division Youth League: Thursdays 16,23 & 30 October and 6 November 2003 6-8pm
also
Under 20s 1st Division Federation: Thursdays 16,23 & 30 October and 6 November 2003 6-8pm
First Grade 1st Division Federation: Thursdays 16,23 & 30 October and 6 November 2003 6-8pm

VENUE:

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ENQUIRIES TO:

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SUNDAY 26th OCTOBER 2003

SUNDAY 2nd NOVEMBER 2003

SUNDAY 9th NOVEMBER 2003

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U/14 10.30am to 12.15pm
U/15 12.30pm to 2.15pm
U/16 2.30pm to 4.15pm
U/18 4.30pm to 6.15pm

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Sunday	26th October	9am	Field 5

FIRST GRADE TRIALS

VENUE: VALENTINE PARK

DATES:

Tuesday	28th October	7pm	Field 5
Thursday	30th October	7pm	Field 2
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2004

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Under 18's at 3pm

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National Soccer League

Match of the Week

	Northern Spirit	4
	Sydney Olympic	0

By Peter Damalas

The lack of experience at the top level, and some horrendous errors in the second half turned a competitive match into a white-wash for the home side.

This Northern Spirit team simply had too much power and aggression when it counted most, and the new Sydney Olympic outfit could not respond when the stakes were raised early in the second half.

Despite a spirited opening period, Olympic were torn apart in the second half, and goals from Johnathon Richter, Ian Ferguson, Dylan Macallister and Stewart Petrie secured the Spirit's first victory, and condemned Olympic to an embarrassing defeat.

The Spirit's new home venue, Pittwater Park, provided a picturesque setting for an often intriguing encounter. And while the playing surface is showing signs of steady improvement after the rugby season, the arena offers an intimate environment for spectators.

The two coaches, McKinna and Papanikitas could be heard

barking instructions to the many young players on display. And Japanese star, Hiroyuki Ishida, seemed to relish the responsibility of being an Gelder statesman, in the squad (only four players remain from the last campaign).

The crowd were treated to an open first half, with Olympic's young midfield dominating the play. For Lawrie McKinna's men, the long ball was the one avenue into the Olympic half. The backline found the pitch uncomfortable at times. Attempted long balls were skied up and across towards the grandstand while two mistimed back-passes were almost intercepted by Olympic players.

The ruggedness of the first half was also emphasised by many of the challenges, with Ferguson and Spencer booked for rash tackles on Alilovic and Bakis respectively.

Surprisingly, it was the away side that adapted better to the playing conditions, and the likes of Jim Bakis, Zenon Caravella and Joseph Schirripa in particular, ran rings around the older, and slower Spirit combination of O'Sullivan and Ferguson in mid-

field.

Olympic's number ten, Denis Alilovic, was constructive with many of his passes. He may well figure prominently this season for Olympic as a replacement for Troy Halpin.

Captain Ante Juric's long range shot was deflected wide in the 26th minute, while Pablo Cardozo's effort was well saved by Paul Henderson on his near post. The prodigal son of Olympic was sent into the clear with an incisive pass, and only the faintest of touches diverted the ball away for a corner.

Despite being at an acute angle, and on his wrong foot, Cardozo perhaps may have done better with the one clear cut opportunity of the half. Olympic would rue this miss come the second half.

But despite the wealth of possession that Olympic enjoyed for most of the first half, it was the Spirit who came closest to opening the scoring, thanks largely to the hard running and aggressive striking partnership of Macallister and Petrie.

In the 13th minute, Petrie was presented with the ball after some uncertainty in the Olympic

penalty area. The Scotsman drilled a low shot passed goalkeeper Peco Trajceviski, but not strong enough to deter the defence from clearing it off the line. Former Olympic striker Macallister was dangerous with two headers from free kicks taken by Richter on the left touchline. The right flank was a problem area for Olympic for the duration of the match, and wing back Predrag Bojic was replaced at half time with new Adelaide City signing, Iain Fyfe.

The floodgates opened for Spirit two minutes into the second half. A Stewart Petrie corner from the right found Richter, who powered home a simple near post header.

It was a shock from which Sydney never recovered. Olympic were suddenly under the hammer for the first sustained period of the match, and the nerves and inexperience severely hampered their ability to respond quickly.

Cardozo offered a brief sign of resistance with a long range free kick that dipped just under the bar, and the goaleader was forced to drop deep to receive service. From that moment on it



Northern Spirit players celebrate one of their four goals against Sydney Olympic last week.

was all Spirit. In the 55th minute, Trajceviski and Karlovic conspired to gift the home side a second goal. Initially, the keeper raced out of his goal to claim a long ball from the right touchline, only to clatter into the defender.

Moments later, and still feeling the effects of the collision which initially floored him, Karlovic's attempted clearance sliced off his boot and was inexplicably claimed by Trajceviski. Referee Matthew Breeze had little option but to rule an indirect free kick in the box for a delib-

erate backpass.

Ferguson dispatched the free kick into the roof of the net with consummate ease to double the Spirit's advantage.

Macallister was now in an inspired mood, and his running off the left flank was devastating. Trajceviski was clearly uncomfortable with crosses delivered close to the goal line, and the Spirit capitalised.

The 21 year old was on hand for the third, a simple tap in after a cross from Richter was not dealt with by the disorganised Olympic backline.

Olympic's midfield, so lively and mobile in the first half, faded significantly after falling behind 3-0, and the younger players could not impose themselves on the combative style of the Spirit. The fourth and final act of a miserable afternoon for last season's grand finalists occurred with nine minutes remaining. Caravella was dispossessed deep in the Spirit half, and a lengthy run from the inspirational Wayne O'Sullivan turned defence into attack in the blink of an eye.

The former Parramatta stalwart played Petrie in with a through ball that initially looked as if it was overhit. But a comedy of errors involving Trajceviski and Juric this time led to the Scotsman tapping the ball into the back of an unguarded net.

For Pete Papanikitas, a season of hardship has begun. He will need to work wonders with the squad this week in the wake of this confidence sapping display. Communication in defence and better service to Cardozo are likely to be the main points as the team prepare for the local derby against Sydney.

United, their first home fixture of the season. Deep into stoppage time, Hiroyuki Ishida clutched his face in despair and desolation after watching the events unfold around him. This is another symbol of the uncertain nature of the National Soccer League. The 24 year old Japanese winger joined the club at the height of their powers, and this match showed him the depths of the competition.



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U/12's: 17/10, 24/10, 31/10 - 6.00pm to 8.00pm

Super Youth League

U/13's & U/14's: 13/10, 20/10, 27/10 & 03/11 - 6.30pm to 8.30pm
U/15's & U/16's: 15/10, 22/10, 29/10 & 05/11 - 6.30pm to 8.30pm
U/18's: 19/10, 26/10, 02/11 & 09/11 - 9.00am to 11.00am

Enquiries: Youth League — Steve Boyd (m) 0408 400 396
Metro League — Keith Charles (m) 0403 289 267

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U/14'S 12.00PM TO 1.30PM
U/16'S 1.30PM TO 3.00PM

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1ST GRADE & U21'S 3.00PM TO 5.00PM

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Player Ratings

Northern Spirit:
Henderson (7), Watts (5.5), O'Sullivan (7), Spencer (6.5), Ferguson (7), Macallister (8), Richter (7.5), Hutchinson (7), Petrie (7), Wilkinson (6), Milligan (6). Substitutes: Tomasevic (5.5), Kwasnik (5.5), Osman (5.5).

Sydney Olympic:
Trajceviski (4), Kohler (6), Juric (6), Schirripa (7), Cardozo (6.5), Alilovic (7), Bakis (6.5), Bojic (5), Karlovic (5), Ishida (6.5), Caravella (6). Substitutes: Baillie (5.5), Fyfe (6), Baird (6).



National Soccer League



Brisbane Strikers

0



Perth Glory

0

By Glenn Davis

Coach Stu McLaren is content with Brisbane Strikers' solid start to the season despite allowing Perth Glory to slip out of town with a nil-all draw in last Saturday night's clash at Perry Park.

McLaren believed the Strikers did enough to warrant the three points but conceded it lacked the killer punch at crucial times.

"I thought we did enough to win but we lacked a bit of creativity and cleverness at times," McLaren said.

"It was always a point game against Perth but we've had a solid start to the season and I'm happy with what we've achieved so far."

Perth, the reigning champions, showed their customary flair and skill but after missing nine players from last year's side it was evident their deadly teamwork had not yet gelled.

Perhaps it was a moral victory for the home side but the Strikers continued the home ground hoodoo against the West Australians.

Perth has yet to lose to the Strikers in Brisbane, winning four and drawing three of their previous seven clashes.

Brisbane has a far better record in Perth, beating Glory twice in the past four years.

The Strikers, who drew 1-all the previous round against last year's other grand finalists Sydney Olympic, are yet to chalk up a win on their new Perry Park ground after ending several nomadic years at Ballymore and Lang Park.



Brisbane Strikers skipper Peter Grierson had a sound game for the home sound against last year's champions the Perth Glory.

The Glory's attacking flair was subdued in the opening period with former Socceroo Damian Mori troubled by an eye problem in the opening half.

Mori came to the sideline twice inside the first 15 minutes and at one stage left his side a man down for three minutes as he went to the change rooms for treatment.

It was revealed after the game that Perth considered replacing Mori who had blurred vision from his contact lenses until ten minutes into the second half.

But even with a subdued Mori, the Strikers young defence easily kept the Glory at bay nullifying Mori's lethal partner Bobby Despotovski.

The match was played at a frantic pace but honours were even in the first half with both sides getting off to an enterprising start.

It wasn't until seven minutes from the break that supporters witnessed the first serious shot on goal when Strikers midfielder David Pilic unsuccessfully tried to chip Perth keeper Jason Petkovic.

After a dour previous passage Pilic's attempt snapped Josh Rose into action, the forward curling a shot that sailed over the crossbar from a diffi-

cult angle just two minutes later.

Perth was restricted to just one first half chance from Despotovski who raced onto a clever chip from midfielder Tom Pondeljak only to blast his attempt high and wide.

Both sides kept up the furious pace after the break but unlike the opening period, chances flowed freely.

Mori and Pondeljak both missed with chances inside six minutes of the resumption with the latter striking a low shot wide of the upright from 25 metres after a clever lay off from Matt Horsley.

However, the best opportunity fell for the home side from a short free kick which Pilic curled dangerously towards goal only to be kept out by a finger tip save from Petkovic.

The Strikers almost paid a heavy price for losing the ball in centre field midway through the half when Horsley pounced, rifling a shot out of the reach of Strikers keeper Jason Kearton just wide of the upright.

Strikers skipper Peter Grierson almost became a hero for the home-side with a dipping 30 metre shot, which deceived Petkovic before going out.

Player Ratings

Brisbane Strikers: Kearton 7, Dodd 8, Steffanuto 7, McCloughan 7, McLaren 7, Grierson 7, Fitzsimmons 6, Pilic 8, McKay 7, Rose 8 (Brownlie 66' 7), Morley 6.
Perth: Petkovic 7, Horsley 8, Hassell 7, Murphy 7, Srogi 8 (Bingley 80' 7), Despotovski 6, North 7, Byrnes 7, Pondeljak 8, Mori 7, Couns 7

our defence was very naive."

After three straight losses, Turner admitted his team had some soul-searching to do.

"At the end of the day there are no lifelines. We have to get out of this situation ourselves," he said.

"It's up to every player to improve starting next week."

While Turner was dejected, his South Melbourne opposite Stuart Munro was delighted.

"The end result was fantastic for us," he said.

"The first 15 minutes we didn't play well and Wollongong had a chance or two but once we scored we really found our rhythm."

"Coveny is a fantastic player for us. He's 31 now, is the club captain, and really leads by example."

While Coveny was the man-of-the-match, midfielders Lia and Stergiopoulos were also stand-outs for South Melbourne.

Wollongong struggled to find a quality player but midfielders Nahuel Arrarte and Adam Hughes tried hard.

Source - AAP



Wollongong Wolves

0



South Melbourne

4

STRIKER Vaughan Coveny bagged a double as South Melbourne left the Wolves anchored to the bottom of the NSL at Wollongong's WIN Stadium tonight.

Former Wollongong striker Coveny struck in the 16th and 53rd minutes and substitute Michael Curcija (78th) and Marcus Stergiopoulos (92nd) also scored to deliver South Melbourne their first win of the new campaign.

Last season's wooden spooners Wollongong have started with three consecutive losses and tonight offered little to suggest there were better times ahead.

Wollongong did start positively but after creating a couple of half chances in the opening 10 minutes were punished for some lazy defender.

Defender Jacob Timpano failed to track Coveny who latched onto a neat cross by Simon Storey to score.

The goal immediately deflated the Wolves, though neither side created much in a poor first half.

Wolves striker John Majurovski, preferred up front to club captain Stuart Young, wasted a great chance to equalise immediately after half time, heading wide with goal keeper Eugene Galekovic stranded.

It proved an expensive miss as just a couple of minutes later Coveny



South Melbourne players celebrate Michael Curcija's first goal for South Melbourne this season in their four-nil trouncing of the Wollongong Wolves last week.

showed his scorers instinct to make it 2-0.

With Timpano off the field receiving treatment for a facial cut and Wollongong down to ten men, Coveny was first to a cross from Vince Lia.

Coveny's first time shot was well saved by Andrew Crews but the former Kiwi international followed up to bury the re-bound.

Coveny then had a hand in South Melbourne's third goal to substitute Curcija and in injury time Stergiopoulos also scored to complete a black night for the home side.

Wollongong Wolves coach John Turner described the result as "embarrassing".

"I thought we were non-existent at the back. Coveny just destroyed us -

Player Ratings

Wollongong Wolves: Crews 6, Timpano 6, Jurilj 6, Hughes 6, Hawrysiuk 5 (Cummins 73' 6), Lyons 6, Arrarte 7, Balabanel 6, DeGiovanniello 5 (Young 60' 6), Majurovski 6 (Austin 66' 6), Blake 6.
South Melbourne: Galekovic 7, Osman 7, Storey 7, Durakovic 6 (Poutakidis 46' 7), Kovacevic 7, Coveny 8 (Panopoulos 82' 6), Stergiopoulos 8, Lia 7, Lohy 7 (Curcija 66' 7), Murdocca 7, Tunbridge 7.

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U/18's 6.00pm to 8.00pm

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Both Grades

F S Garside Park Granville

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F.S Garside Park

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U/12's 9.00am • U/14's 11.00am

• U/16's 1.00pm • WSL 3.00pm

Contact: Michael Briggs 0412 009 986 or Vic Zappia 0418 234 768



National Soccer League



	Marconi Stallions	1
	Newcastle United	1

By Joe Russo

An Angelo Costanzo goal well into stoppage time saved Marconi from losing their first encounter of the season and sent the home bench into raptures.

The celebrations by Marconi coach, Jean-Paul de Marigny, were that of a relieved person who had witnessed his team concede a soft goal to Newcastle in the 53rd minute of play.

It would have been rough justice for Marconi to lose the game given that both sides were evenly matched throughout.

It was fiery beginning to a rather rough and tumble encounter at Marconi Stadium on Saturday night and things certainly didn't ease up throughout the match.

However, both coaches were keen to play down things at the end and simply put it down to the normal events that can happen on the field of play.

"It's part and parcel of the game but maybe a few tackles from players from both sides were out of order," De Marigny said.

His Newcastle counterpart, Ian Crook, agreed and acknowledged that it was a passionate affair and not worthy of any over-reaction.

"It is a game at the end of the day. It's a passionate affair and if you lay down and die you'll get run over," he said.

Both De Marigny and Crook were satis-

fied with their own team's performance and the one point each that each took home.

"I was really pleased. We had three central midfield players playing at the back against a good attacking Marconi team. I thought it was a good all round performance tonight by everyone on the park," Crook said.

De Marigny countered: "Our back four worked really well, Nick Carle is back to where he should be, [Joe] Spiteri worked all night and it is a credit to all of them."

Brad Maloney opened procedures with a rather nasty two-foot sliding tackle on Damian Brown in the 2nd minute and he was lucky to receive only a yellow card.

Then it was Dominic Longo's turn on Esala Masi a minute later but referee, Eddie Lennie, was even more generous this time around and merely warned the Marconi defender.

In the 5th minute it was Grant Last who committed a nasty foul on a Newcastle opponent and he too received a yellow from Lennie. At least one of those Marconi players should have been marched in the opening five minutes.

In the 10th minute a wonderful shot from Carle brought out a tremendous reflex save from Tom Willis in the Newcastle goal. Midway through the first half Maloney had a goal ruled out for pushing a defender after he headed home from a cross.

In the 36th minute it was Spiteri who hit

the post for the Stallions and right on half-time a lovely Greg Owens shot from the visitors hit the outside of the Marconi goal.

Newcastle took the lead in the 53rd minute: a terrible mix up between keeper Michael Turnbull and defender Longo allowed Newcastle captain Robert Middleby to chip the ball into the net. It was a soft goal and totally unexpected.

Marconi were stung into action and in the space of four minutes three times peppered the Newcastle goal; Eric Anabalon's shot was well blocked by a defender at the crucial moment, Spiteri then fired over and Carle once again tested Willis.

In the 72nd minute there was a melee that brought the game to a halt for the best part of four minutes. Brendan Renaud was heavily tackled by Owens but the Marconi veteran's reaction (he head-butted his opponent) was deemed excessive and referee Lennie had no hesitation in flashing the red card.

However, the incident threatened to boil over after several players from both sides became involved and, rather petulantly, it was Scott Thomas who threw the ball at an opponent's head and he too was marched by Lennie. In the end the instigator Owens received only a yellow as both teams played on with ten players.

Five minutes later it was an Anabalon shot which rocked the Newcastle crossbar but the real highlight was Costanzo's goal that came as a welcome relief to the rather disappointing home crowd on a cold Sydney night.

Just when Newcastle thought it was over a Marconi corner from Luke Casserly found the head of Spiteri who knocked it into the path of Costanzo and the tall defender with a sweet volley did the rest.



Marconi Stallions defender Angelo Costanzo rescued his side from defeat with an injury time goal that played out a one-all draw against Newcastle United.

	Parramatta Power	4
	Football Kingz	1

By David Mason

Parramatta Power striker Travis Dodd became the 5th player in the history of the National Soccer League to score a hat trick off the bench to give the Power a 3-1 win over the Football Kingz at Parramatta Stadium on Saturday night.

Dodd came into the match in the 27th minute for fellow striker Fernando Rech and made a huge impression, scoring twice within nine minutes after coming onto the field and then rounding off his hat trick with a match-sealing striker in the 73rd minute.

It was Dodd's first hat trick in the NSL and only the 5th time that a substitute has scored a hat trick in the 26-year history of the National Soccer League.

Parramatta Power went into the match without key striker Ante Milicic, who was rested by Coach Nick Theodorakopoulos despite recovering from a groin injury.

An illustration of the Power's early dominance was the fact that it took until the 13th minute for the visitors to have a

shot and it was a weak effort that dribbled harmlessly wide of the Power goal.

Pantelis was a livewire in his Power debut and he had a stinging 25m shot well saved by Nicholson in the 19th minute after Buonavoglia dispossessed the Kingz defence.

Parramatta suffered a slight hiccup in the 27th minute when Rech hobbled from the field injured. He was replaced by Travis Dodd, who went straight into an attacking role alongside Buonavoglia and Elrich.

The inevitable opening goal came in the 30th minute when Dodd marked his debut with a well taken goal from a Simon Colosimo corner. Dodd pressured Nicholson into a fumble and was the first to the rebound, netting from 3m through a crowded six-yard box.

Six minutes later Dodd made it a double when he scored a glancing header from a Pantelis cross to give Parramatta Power a 2-0 lead.

Buonavoglia came within a coat of paint of adding to the score in the 41st minute when a quick break out of defence



An aerial challenge shown between Power's Michael Beauchamp (Left) and the Kingz' Harry Ngata (Right).

saw Colosimo find the striker in space. He beat two defenders and his low shot hit the post and stayed out.

Dodd wasted no time in creating havoc in the second term when he broke free to cross the ball for his team mates when he could have been excused for shooting in the 47th minute. Two minutes later he did shoot but his delightful chip from the edge of the penalty area was saved by Nicholson.

The Kingz had a rare shot in the 54th minute when Chris Jackson blasted just

wide after good play on the edge of the penalty area by Kingz striker Paul Harries, who held the ball up well and laid the ball back to Jackson.

Power seemed to have taken their foot off the accelerator and was punished in the 58th minute when Tallan Martin headed home at the far post after some slack defending by the home side.

That goal gave the visitors some impetus and with the Power still in a slumber the match was tight and tense during the middle stages of the second half.

Dodd rounded off his hat trick in the 73rd minute by finishing a sweet goal for Parramatta Power to make it 3-1. A clever ball forward by Colosimo was played into the path of Buonavoglia by Dodd who then doubled back to the far post to tap in the cross.

The former Newcastle United striker could have had four goals in the 77th minute when he got in behind the defence, running onto a Colosimo long ball, but his shot was saved by the legs of Nicholson.

Dodd then turned provider when he broke away down the right but his low cross was turned away by a Kingz defender with Buonavoglia ready pounce unmarked at the far post.

Elrich rounded off the scoring with a well deserved goal in the 93rd minute. A slick through ball by Gumprecht saw Buonavoglia away on goal and he squared the ball for Elrich to slot the ball home for a 4-1 victory.

Player Ratings

Parramatta Power: Bolton 7, Durante 7, Ceccoli 7, Colosimo 7 (Zorbas 87), Beauchamp 7, Thompson 7, Gumprecht 8, Rech 5 (Dodd 27 91), Pantelis 8 (Sobczyk 92), Buonavoglia 8, Elrich 7.
Auckland Kingz: Nicholson 6, Midtsian 5 (Harries 46 6), Collins 6, Tambouras 6, Jackson 6, Ngata 6, Rowley 6, Donoso 6, Scott 6 (Campbell 81 5), Seaman 6, Banks 5 (Martin 46 7).

BYE - SYDNEY UNITED

MARTH READY FOR WOLVES

By Peter Damalas

After failing to qualify for last season's finals series, the Melbourne Knights are in the process of re-establishing itself as a competitive force in the National Soccer League.

The intentions of the club to once again become a threat in the competition were signalled in the off season with the recruitment of coach Ian Dobson, who brought the club their second, and last championship in 1996.

While the two results achieved thus far in the 2003-2004 season indicate that the team may struggle to keep up the pace with the frontrunners, the performances against both Marconi Stallions and Perth Glory suggest that this young squad have the hunger for success.

The one player that the young Knights will look towards leading the charge this season is club veteran Andrew Marth. Player-coach last campaign, Marth has become the symbol of the Melbourne club, playing in each of the five grand finals the Knights have played in, scoring on three occasions and captaining the side to consecutive championships in the mid nineties.

The squad of young players will no doubt benefit from playing alongside someone with Marth's track record.

After recording an encouraging 1-1 draw with the much fancied Marconi side in Round 1, the Knights travelled west to meet defending champions Perth, and defended impressively up until the final ten minutes of play.

The Knights defence, in particular, goalkeeper Martin John, restricted the Glory's much daunted strike force for most of the game but were undone with a three goal haul late in the match. This experience will prove to be invaluable.

Melbourne Knights enjoyed the weekend off as Adelaide United prepare for their entry into the national league, and are preparing to take on the Wollongong Wolves at Knights Stadium on Sunday.

Oceania cans Futsal Qualifying Tournament

The OFC World Futsal Qualifying Tournament scheduled for Canberra, Australia from 20-25 October 2003, has now been deferred to 2004.

The Oceania Football Confederation made this decision after the withdrawal of Fiji which left the three teams remaining for this tournament.

Rather than proceeding with just three teams, the tournament has now been rescheduled to July/August 2004.

The decision to defer the tournament is also taking into account proposed assistance from FIFA in futsal development for the Oceania region. This assistance which OFC is looking to implement in 2004 will better prepare the participating teams for the tournament and will likely mean more teams will enter the FIFA qualifying tournament in 2004.

According to Acting OFC President, Tautulu Roebeck, a renewed commitment to futsal development with assistance from FIFA will breathe new life into the regional game and provide a more stable platform for holding the OFC World Futsal Qualifying Tournament than going ahead with only three teams.

"With the FIFA Futsal World Championships likely to take place in Chinese Taipei towards the end of 2004, the decision to defer the tournament will allow proposed futsal programmes to get off the ground which will encourage greater participation come mid-2004," he explained.

"This will ensure our champion will have a good lead up when it takes on the best at the FIFA Futsal World Championship."

Mr Roebeck re-iterated the importance of futsal as a complimenting the skills of outdoor players.

"Futsal is a game of skill and assists the nurturing of young players, as well as being entertaining," he added.

Everton Move For Cahill?



Tim Cahill: A move to the Premiership is on the cards for the young Aussie.

Everton boss Dave Moyes is chasing Millwall midfielder Tim Cahill. The young Australian is also being tracked by Fulham and Aston Villa, though Everton are favourites to land him when the transfer window opens in January.

The Daily Star says Moyes is considering Cahill as an alternative to Fulham midfielder Sean Davis, who failed to win a move to Goodison Park in August because of a failed medical.

BANKSTOWN DISTRICT AMATEUR SOCCER ASSOCIATION

Under 12/14/16 Girls Rep Trials

★ 2004 SEASON ★

KINCH RESERVE

Sunday 26th October - 10am

Laurie Simpson 9728 1192



Fraser Park Canterbury Association United

invites all Soccer players to trial for the

Season 2004

Super Youth League

U13 - 17/24/31 October

U14 - 15/22/29 October

U15 - 14/21/28 October

U16 - 16/23/30 October

U18 - 13/20/27 October

Time: 6-8pm

U11 & U12 - 19 & 26 October

Time: 10-12noon

Where: Fraser Park

100 Marrickville Road, Marrickville

For further information please contact Roger Jesus on 0409 126 875

MSC LIVERPOOL

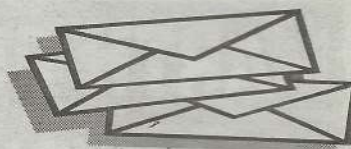
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Letters to the Editor



Soccer Summer = Disaster

Dear Sir,

- * Summer Soccer is all wrong for Australia
- * The game is a winter sport
- * We have nothing to fear from any other football code
- * Money is not the issue
- * 2005 the game can change for ever
- * All levels of the game (Juniors, Youth League, State League, NSL, and Premier League) playing at the same time
- * A new model for the game
- * (16) professional teams
- * Premier League, Champions League, Cup Competition
- * State teams and club sides plus Oceania input
- * Soccer venue's, sponsors and television rights

30 round season first round early
March 30th round mid November

First past the post Premier League Winners; Australian Premier League; 1 Perth Glory (c), 2 Adelaide City (c), 3 South Melbourne (c), 4 Canberra United (c), 5 Sydney United (c), 6 Auckland Rovers (c), 7 Newcastle United (c), 8 Brisbane Strikers (c), 9 Darwin Cubs (c), 10 Western Kangaroos (s) (Western

Australia), 11 SA United (South Australia) (s), 12 Victoria (s), 13 Tassie Devils (s), 14 New South Wales (s), 15 New Zealand Kingz (s), 16 Queensland (s)

- * State Teams (s) — Club Teams (c)
- * Professional squad of 18-20 players
- * Shared Soccer venue's between state and club teams *example:* Queensland/Brisbane Strikers (Ballymore) home of Queensland Soccer; SA United/Adelaide City (Hindmarsh) home of South Australia Soccer; NZ Kingz/Auckland Rovers (Ericsson) home of New Zealand Soccer
- * Soccer only stadiums (home of Premier League Soccer)
- * All club teams merge with Oceania nations *example:* South Melbourne — Tahiti (5 players) "minium"; South United — Tonga (4 players) "minium"; Newcastle United — Fiji (6 players) "minium"
- * Different number of players for different Oceania teams

Oceania Champion League

Group 1 — Perth Glory, Brisbane Strikers, Darwin Cubs, Queensland
Group 2 — Adelaide City, Newcastle United, Western Kangaroos, New Zealand Kingz

Group 3 — South Melbourne, Auckland Rovers, SA United, New South Wales

Group 4 — Canberra United, Sydney United, Victoria, Tassie Devils

* Six match days in group stage (top two qualify for second round)

* All club teams home games played in Pacific Islands; *example:* Adelaide City play in Somalia; Brisbane Strikers play in Vanuatu; Darwin Cubs play in Papua New Guinea

* Second round games played back in Australia / New Zealand

Group Stage

Played between June/July

Second Round Games

Home and away played in September

Semi-Finals

Home and away played in October

Final

Last game of the season late November played at Canberra Stadium

* Winner of Oceania Champion League qualify's for World Club Championship (FIFA)

Aussie Cup

* 16 team knock-out

1st Round — Played over Easter period (April)

2nd Round — in (May)

Semi-Final — in (August)

Cup Final — Played at Carrawa Stadium Gold Coast (long weekend October)

- * Teams qualify through State League's
- * Same format as the Oceania Champion League
- * Final played at Canberra Stadium (also long weekend of October) (State League)
- New South Walēš — 4 teams, *example:* Marconi, Sydney Olympic, Northern Spirit, Wollongong
- Victoria — 4 teams
- South Australia — 2 teams
- Queensland — 2 teams
- Western Australia — 2 teams
- Tasmania — 1 team
- New Zealand — 1 team

John Coulson,
Concord, NSW

WISE WORDS AT LAST!

Dear Sir,

The first true sign of inspiration has been established by Lowy and his administration after the dismantling of Soccer Australia.

It is absolutely essential that the reform process involve every aspect of the game, and the creation of a new soccer association is the first step towards the improvement and advancement of the code in this country.



Frank Lowy is ready to lead soccer's new company to greater heights.

Not only does the new association symbolise a new beginning for soccer, it rids the game of the administrative, managerial and financial problems associated with Soccer Australia.

Lowy is trying to keep the past where it belongs, and move towards the future.

I wish the new administration the best of luck as they attempt to create a new, viable domestic competition for next year.

Robert Blanks,
Glenelg, SA.

IT HAS BEGUN

Dear Sir,

It is good to see Frank Lowy come out publicly and discuss his plans for soccer in Australia. Despite not knowing a great deal about the intricacies of football politics, I can see from the few public appearances and announcements, that Lowy is a serious man who has the interests of the sport at heart.

I was sceptical at first about Lowy's dismantling of Soccer Australia, the governing body, but now I am reassured that it is in fact for the best of the game.

While the previous board did work hard to secure contracts with Qantas and adidas, it is important for Lowy to establish his own agenda, as his success rate in business is phenomenal.

Owen Davis,
Oatley, NSW.

BE WEARY OF SYDNEY

Dear Sir,

The first two rounds of the National Soccer League has certainly made for interesting reading. It is important to note that the Sydney clubs, who have had mixed fortunes in the off season, have made bright starts.

I speak of course about Sydney United. They epitomise the fighting spirit, that every supporter would like from their team. Their two from two record speaks volumes about the inner resources within the club. Lets hope for the sake of the competition that United and some of the strugglers can come out of the doldrums and give Parramatta, Perth and co. a run for their money.



Action between Sydney United and the Wollongong Wolves during their first round clash.

Olympic and Marconi have also made good starts. I think the doom and gloom season many expected for last season's grand finalists may not eventuate, as they have a good basis for a squad that can challenge for the top six.

Alilovic seems to be a good prospect for the season.

And Marconi have gone back to the future, and I am expecting big things from them.

Alison Smalley,
Liverpool, NSW.

CHIN UP MATILDAS

Dear Sir,

Congratulations to the Matildas on their World Cup tournament!

While they were unfortunate and did not record their first win, hopefully the team and the coach can learn from the experience and develop as a competitive nation.



Matildas star Heather Garriock shown in action against Ghana.

The draw with China, a superpower of the game, was one of the highlights of the tournament, but losses to Russia and Ghana undid this superb effort.

The performances of the Matildas showed that Australia are not too far off the mark when it comes to the international scene, and I expect that the management and coaching staff will work on improving the standard of play.

Rosa Sangallo,
Manuka, ACT.

TOO MUCH FOR AUSSIES

Dear Sir,

The performances of some of Australia's national teams, the Joeys and the Matildas, at their recent World Cups, have left a lot to be desired and the inquiries into these tournaments should

make for interesting reading.

Perhaps the players were shocked by their first up defeats in these tournaments, which made qualification to the knock out phase extremely difficult. Perhaps the squads were not prepared adequately for the rigours and intensity of tournament football.

Sure, luck and the bounce of the ball may not always go the way the team wants, but there must be a plan for every situation and the players should be taught to bounce back and remain competitive. These instincts will carry them on throughout the players' careers.

As much as it pains me to say it, I feel that the talent stream has slowly turned into a trickle, and our famed youth teams are now part of the the sports past. I hope that I am proved wrong by the Under 20s later in the year.

When I look through the team lists, I cannot really point out any players that may reach the dizzying heights of a Harry Kewell or Mark Viduka, which is essential in the promotion of home based players.

Joseph Zaia,
Bankstown, NSW.

SBS - OZ SOCCER'S REAL TV CHANNEL

Dear Sir,

The wait has finally come but at least now we can see a progress in the live telecast matches in regards to the National League being shown on the box.

The past few years have been hell, channel seven has really setback the sport in more ways than one.



How on earth can a television station state that they've done what was right for the sport when they showed highlight reels at midnight and put on commercials during the Grand-Finals.

From the word go, I knew a commercial

station would be the death of Australian soccer in this country.

How could we compete against the likes of AFL etc on Seven when no marketing by the station was done.

Never did I say an advertised National League game or even a slight commercial stating the highlights package every Tuesday nights.

SBS now has the chance to gain the right for staging the National League show every week.

I know many people will query — what's in it for them?

Being the soccer channel for so many years now, SBS will surely promote the National League once more.

More marketing and emphasis will be evident thus creating more of a sellable product to the public.

Fingers crossed that soccer falls into the right hands of SBS — maybe then we can take a peak and see how everyone is doing in the National League.

Stefan Bastic,
Gladesville, NSW.

STARVING FOR COVERAGE

Dear Sir,

We Australian soccer followers have been starving for far too long in not seeing anything on the box in terms of the National League.

Channel 7 has all but ruined us on television, the main stream papers clearly have hardly any space to work with which in return means that we see 200 word stories on soccer every second day — I guess the only thing that is helping us gain some knowledge is the radio stations.

Radio 2KY and 98.5 have done really well in enlightening us with news from the National League.

Its great to hear every Sundays, soccer shows dedicated in bringing the best and freshest news even before it hits the news-stands.

Lets hope that something could be done about this television issue, its beyond the joke. Frank Lowy should note: Give it to a station that will promote the game not ruin it.

Damien Patterson,
Balmain, NSW.

PREMIERSHIP BIZARRO

It's Nige and Derek here from BananaTV's Premiership Bizarro. Each week we give you the news and our views from around the grounds of the EPL.

We must start off where we finished last week, with the quote "Glen will not get another job and will join George Graham on the managerial scrap heap." But it may be proven that we have no idea what we are talking about. As it is "rumoured" that Reading Big Gaffer, John Majeski (this guy's ego is so big he named Reading's ground after himself), is about to catch Glen before he has the chance to book some hols on the Costa Del wherever.

Majic Majeski has stated that he will line up Steve Coppell as a possible replacement (curious statement) and would welcome a person of Glen's class. Don't you get it Majic! You are getting Glen the manager not Glen the player! Let's see how this one develops over the coming weeks as Reading's search for a new manager gains momentum.

Until this round of the Champs League, where Chelski got thumped by a Turkish 10 men Besitkas, 2- zip, it was all laughs amongst the bevy of beauties at Stalingrad Bridge. Even when Rivaldo stated his desire to resurrect his career at cash-up Chelski, a note was put on the dressing room door saying "Sorry, we're full" Ho ho ho. Let's see how many laughs are being had if they stuff up their next Champs game. Claudia is already trotting out

the excuses about the communication problems with having such an international squad. He has been squawking on about how he has to do 3 talks; Italian, Spanish and English. We hope for all the players that his Italian and Spanish are better than his English.

Talking of stuffing up Champs League games, The Arse look like they are on the way out again. After taking a 3-0 shellacking against Inter Milanians they could barely muster a shot on goal in Moscow, as they proved that stringing passes together against Spurs is a lot different than doing it in the Champions League.

Back to the EPL and there has been a war of words between Wolves' old man Paul Ince and pundit, and even older bloke, Mark Lawrenson. Lawro can't stop telling a joke and Incey didn't see the funny side of it. It goes like this: "What time do Wolves kick off? Every 10 minutes." We had a good chuckle, but Incey must have heard it too many times as he spouted with his own laughing gear that Lawrenson is a pr**k and to put that in the paper. Well Incey, we did!

We've always advocated that professional footballers are getting paid too much money and have too much time on their hands. Well the devil likes idle hands - especially those that belong to Chelski nutter, John Terry. He has been caught with a raunchy 18-year-old sex

bunny with all the right assets.

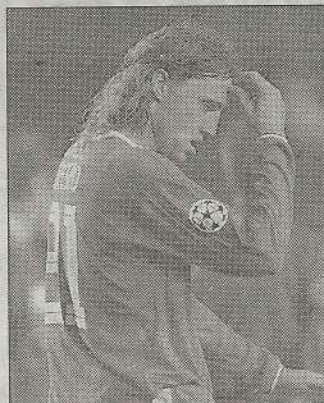
She has had enough of Terry sneaking around and cheating on long time mug Toni. John seems to have a 6 pack but is missing the plastic thingy that holds them all together.

He tried to be romantic by sending her a text message telling her what a great ass she had, but curvy chicky babe Rebecca Ryan kept 'em for a day like this. They are all over the tabloids and Terry has some explaining to do.

A jaunt across to Spain, where Deportivo have their own crocodile hunter. Defender Enrique Romero was getting on the plane when he spotted a snake on the tarmac. Instead of getting

someone who was equipped to deal with the situation, Rico decided to take the snake on bare handed. The snake sold him a dummy and caught him on the hand. Romero was rushed to hospital where he was kept over night for observation while Depor went down 3-2 to Osasuna. Rico should stick to nets and butterflies.

To finish the week, we have a sad story about a referee in a Sunday League in Gloucester. Wayne Milin was doing his job in the centre when he gave a throw. The bench started groaning about the decision and Wayne heard something he didn't like. He went to the manager to tell him he was reporting him to the League. The manager took great exception to this and blew



A dejected Hernan Crespo storms off Stamford Bridge after their shock two-nil loss to Turkish side Besitkas.

his top. The problem for Wayne was that the football manager was also the manager at the printing biz where Wayne worked. On arrival on Monday he was doused with cleaning fluid by one of the players he reported, and was shown the door by the gaffer. He did have the last laugh though; the unfair dismissal case netted him a cool 6 grand.

There endith another week of Bizarro in the Premiership. Don't forget to tune your computer to www.bananatv.com for all the latest bollocks.

See you here next week!

Nige & Derek
Premiership Bizarro



Postcard From Birmingham



By Brendon Davis

For the first time in the clubs 128 year history, Birmingham City are fourth in the top flight of English Football.

As I landed all I wanted was to see Birmingham win two games, a wish granted (Leeds and Portsmouth, both 2-0).

But wow- what a week it was in English Football.

The alleged gang rape by a group of premiership players, Arsene Wenger's ungentlemanly conduct, Wolves being put up for sale by Sir Jack and Sven Goran Erickson announcing his desire to return to club football.

Also in the week, Spurs sacked Glen Hoddle as manager and Leeds have transfer listed Mark Viduka. Lucas Neil's tackle, Rud's dive, West Hams new managerial appointment and Wimbledon's first game at the Milton Keynes (or "the MK") to use the prevailing

lingo) all happened in the week.

Now the rot has really set in at Leeds. Everyone knows Peter Reid's tenure is limited, in fact he may not survive the next seven days. Leeds backers were quoted in the London press as saying relegation will force the club into certain administration - they way they are playing they won't score again, let alone win a game.

Back at Birmingham we started the week with an impressive, albeit controversial, win on the road at Elland Road. David Dunn's penalty was saved but was retaken after the linesman correctly flagged the Leeds custodian coming off his line early. Robbie Savage subsequently converted from the spot.

But the win was relegated from the limelight by the Manchester United and Arsenal free for all. The number of suspensions likely to follow at Highbury will end the Gunners Championship prospects. And Wenger's subsequent defence of the indefensible earned him condemnation from one side of the country to the other.

With Glen Hoddle gone every Premiership and Nationwide Manager is being touted as his replacement. But who would want to assume the poison chalice at White Hart Lane? With the transfer window closed and

few funds likely to be made available Spurs, the masters of mediocrity will maintain their mantle. A replacement may not be made until the end of the season.

Oddly Newcastle came out during the week to confirm they are not thinking about sacking Sir Bobby. In EPL talk, he's probably on his way out given the Toons poor start to the season.

Poor old Alan Curbishley. The former Birmingham player come Charlton manager is being linked with every vacant managers role in England. This week he



Stan Lazaridis has been starring for Birmingham City this season.

signalled his desire to consider a move to a big money club - hardly encouraging for the quality but under performing squad under his control.

At lunch on Friday Wolverhampton owner and millionaire businessman Sir Jack Haywood announced his desire to sell the club to any buyer with deep pockets - but foreigners need not apply. Having taken his beloved Midlander's to the big time, he is prepared to hand over his shares for nothing and to write off the whole \$100m he lent the club. But not surprisingly, there have been no takers - partly due to Wolves being cemented to the bottom of the table, with two points from a possible 18.

London Sports lawyer and representative for an undisclosed South American Billionaire, "Mr Goldberg" has denied his client is interested in Wolves, saying his client may be interested in Aston Villa. But big Doug Ellis has ridiculed this making his intentions to remain at the helm clear. Infact, Dougie's team is mounting a serious challenge to Spurs for the title of the most mediocre team in the Premiership.

Steve Bruce at Birmingham has confirmed he is not available to replace Sir Alex at his former club, he's agreeing a massive five

year contract at Birmingham. With the Blues in 4th spot, not having lost a half of football all season and only conceding two goals, Birmingham are brimming full of confidence. Aussie Stan Lazza has enjoyed a terrific start to his season after signing a new 2-year contract. He scored one against the Pompey on the weekend.

I had the pleasure (with many thanks to Bell & Clements London) of attending the Birmingham pre match lunch for the Portsmouth game, maybe more of our countries football administrators should travel more frequently, we can learn so much from our "friends" in England about football administration.

Sadly the rape case is the biggest news in English Football. There is not a newspaper, chatroom or TV show not discussing the "story".

While I went over for the week to the Second City to watch my beloved Birmingham play two games, its impossible not to get swept up in the prevailing hype and excitement that is the English Premier League.

It is the biggest and best league in the world, with so many Aussies making outstanding contributions - with all the excitement continuing and bought to you through the season in the pages of ABSW each and every week.

A.P.I.A.-Leichhardt Tigers Football Club Inc



2004



Premier Youth League Player Trials

To be held at
Leichhardt Oval No.2
Mary Street, Leichhardt
(Next to the Leichhardt Aquatic Centre)

at the following times

Team	Day	Dates	Start	Finish
Under 13	Mon	13,20,27 Oct. 3 Nov	6.00pm	8.00pm
Under 14	Tues	14,21,28 Oct. 4 Nov	6.00pm	8.00pm
Under 15	Wed	15,22,29 Oct. 5 Nov	6.00pm	8.00pm
Under 16	Thurs	16,23,30 Oct. 6 Nov	6.00pm	8.00pm
Under 18	Fri	17,24,31 Oct. 7 Nov	6.00pm	8.00pm
Under 13	Sat	18,25 Oct. 1, 8 Nov	9.00am	10.30am
Under 14	Sat	18,25 Oct. 1, 8 Nov	10.30am	12.00pm
Under 15	Sat	18,25 Oct. 1, 8 Nov	12.00pm	1.30pm
Under 16	Sat	18,25 Oct. 1, 8 Nov	1.30pm	3.00pm
Under 18	Sat	18,25 Oct. 1, 8 Nov	3.00pm	4.30pm

Current A.P.I.A. players not required at trials until Week 2

FOR ALL ENQUIRES PLEASE PHONE THE CLUB'S 24 HR INFOLINE 9560 5414



Hurstville City Minotaurs S.C.

2004 Division One Youth

Experienced/Qualified Coaches Required

Please send applications with playing and coaching experience and nominate age group.

To: **Head Coach Peter Sarikakis**
Unit 3, 428-430 Railway Pde, Allawah
NSW 2218 or fax: (02) 9221 1423

Also our club is seeking expressions of interest from players for all team from 13's to 18's

PETER SARIKAKIS
0412 407 830 • 9553 1925 (H)

2004 Super League A Grade U/20 Coaches



2004 Youth League Coaches

REQUIRED FOR STANMORE HAWKS

- Expressions of interest are sought from suitably qualified Coaches for the 2004 Season
- YOUTH LEAGUE: U13, U14, U15, U16, U18
- A Grade and U20
- All coaches and representatives must be qualified as per Soccer NSW Guidelines
- Demonstrated experience in planning and implementing coaching programs at the relevant required standard
- Excellent communication and management skills
- Applications outlining experience, qualifications and references should be sent by 9/10/2003 to:

The Secretary
Stanmore Hawks Soccer Club
56-78 Stanmore Road,
Stanmore NSW 2048

All enquiries to Alec Alexandrou 0414 452 965

Green & Gold Army Series

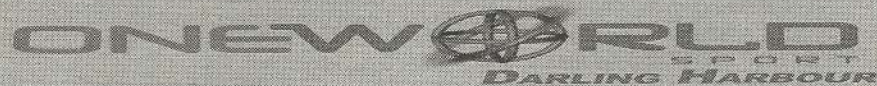
Green & Gold Army
http://www.ggarmy.com

S O C C E R N O O S

Want to be involved in the Sydney GGAmy committee?

We have our first meeting THIS Wednesday

It has been a long time coming, but the first official meeting of Sydney based GGAmy fans is scheduled for **7.30pm Wednesday, October 8** at One World Sport in Darling Harbour.



If you have even the slightest interest in getting involved, or just have something to contribute or say head down to One World Sport and be part of the birth of the Sydney branch of the GGAmy.

Bad luck Matildas

What a roller coaster ride the women's World Cup was for our Matildas. After conceding a gut wrenching winner on 89 minutes in their first game against Russia, the team fought out a quality draw against top 5 ranked China only to blow any chances of advancing to the next stage by dropping their last game to Ghana.



No doubt Adrian Santrac and the team will be disappointed but we salute them for doing their best in the USA.

The NSL is back!

Australia's top league is back for summer. Remember that the NSL is where almost the entire current crop of Socceroos got their start and is the grass roots of Oz soccer - so get behind your local team this weekend!



Olympic Qualifiers in January in Sydney – and friendlies in Adelaide and Perth

Whether you're in Bondi or Broome, Campbelltown or Coolumb get yourself to Sydney in January for the Olyroos Qualifiers on the road to Athens 2004. This is great opportunity to see the youngsters on the cusp of the Socceroos in action as they navigate their way through Oceania on the road to historic Athens.

No matter where you are, put it in your calendar now as it should be a great time. The tournament runs from January 14 – 31.

Also fans in Adelaide and Perth will get to see some great action in the lead up to the tournament with friendlies against the highly credentialed South Korea in **Perth on January 7** and **Adelaide on January 10**. If anyone is interested in trekking to Perth, Adelaide or Sydney for any of the matches e-mail us at admin@ggarmy.com as we are starting to get some numbers together.



The Renaissance of Aussie Soccer – the ASA

As you have no doubt heard, in the last week a revolution has begun in Australian soccer. After months of careful consideration, the Frank Lowy led board of Soccer Australia has decided to essentially wind up the existing organisation in favour of a new body to be known as the Australian Soccer Association (ASA).

There are a number of things positive about this move. However from a Green and Gold Army perspective the one point of the ASA plan that is most glaring and relevant is the boards plans to implement a 3 year national program for ALL our national soccer teams as well as appointing a 'world class' technical director.

In many regards this all most GGAmy fans have wanted – a blue print for their national teams. From a GGAOC (Green and Gold Army Organising Committee) perspective it will allow for greater functionality of the group as well as proving the mechanism for the thorough planning and lead work needed to co-ordinate strong and meaningful events relating to fixtures be it home or away.

The GGAmy exist to support our national soccer teams, this news makes it that much easier to do just that.

GGARMY.COM FANS FORUM

It started slow but now there is plenty of chatter in the 3 GGAmy forums. There is a forum dedicated to the Socceroos, GGAmy Stuff and Other Australian Soccer Stuff.



Is Harry the problem or the solution? Should Frank make more Subs? What went wrong with the Matildas? What's up in the NSL? Chat with the virtual soccer community at GGAmy.com, then select 'Forums'.

Merchandise is coming very soon

The GGAmy is pleased to announce that we will be launching a merchandise facility on our web site very shortly. Featuring the full range of Socceroos gear from Adidas as well as some other unique Socceroos and GGAmy related gear.



It is only weeks away so stay tuned and spread the word that GGAmy.com is **THE place for your on-line Adidas Socceroos and GGAmy gear.**

GGAmy on SBS TV

Thanks to all that responded and participated in the 'Fans Forum' with SBS TV's Craig Foster recently. Craig interviewed 5 of the GGAmy's Sydney fans on a number of issues pertaining to soccer and the GGAmy. It is set to go to air soon as part of 'The World Game' which screens every Sunday at Noon on SBS – so turn it on and look out for your fellow fans on the tube!

There may be opportunities for similar activities in the future so stay tuned!

'Make Refs Your Best Friends' Grant Lee Admonishes His Boys

By Jude Ogbonnaya

Sydney United NSW Rookie Coach Grant Lee admitted last Saturday that "I was terrible as a player with referees" and admonished his players to make the whistles blowers their best companions.

"I tell my players: Make referees your best friends," Lee exclusively hinted the ABSW after his team's 2-1 victory over the visiting Football Kingz at the Sydney United Sports Centre.

Lee whose boys are apparently making waves in the league now understands the politics of refereeing and its attendant aftermath for players who contest the decisions of the referees.

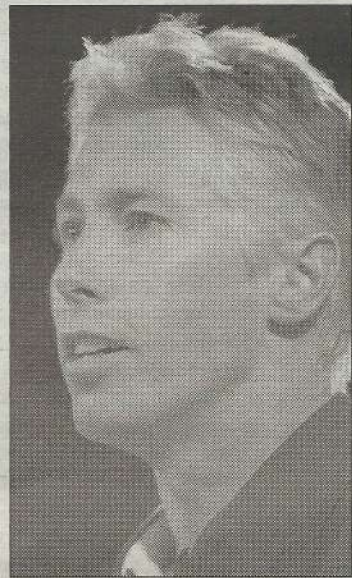
"They have to be smarter on the pitch by resisting all urges to challenge the referees," He said.

Sydney United, the NSL Cup Winners in 1987 has won their first two games of the season to announce their preparedness towards lifting this year's diadem and Coach Lee is excited about his accomplishment so far.

"I'm very happy. It's a nice induction for me and I hope we will keep on improving and winning to make our

fans happy. I hope too that at the end of the season, every player in the team will be far better players than when we started."

He also wants to be the second



"Dreams of winning the National League" - Grant Lee pondering on Sydney United's outlook for the year.

Sydney United Coach after David Mitchell to win the NSL Coach of The Year.

He said: "I want to win the league. That's my ambition as a Coach. And I want to be the National Coach. I'm ready to work hard and these boys are determined to make an impact."

David Mitchell was the NSL Coach of the Year recipient in 1998/99 seasons.

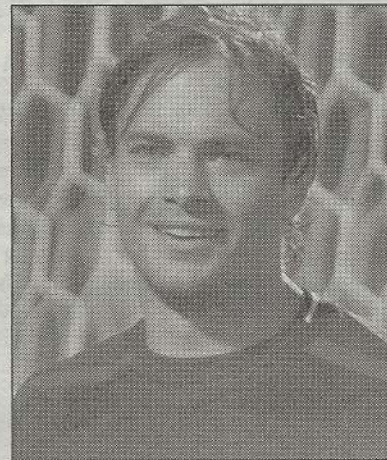
Sydney United this week take on the Bye, a tough opponent nonetheless, the boys will be going through a series of fitness programs in trimming up for their next National League match against cross-town rivals Sydney Olympic at OKI Jubilee Oval.

To date, United have won their first two matches and in that have unearthed some quality stars.

Players such as Anthony Doumanis, Labinot Haliti, Anthony Zmire and Tolgay Ozbey.

Experienced National League campaigners Mark Rudan, Damon Collina, Matthew Langdon and Joe Vrkic have also shown their worth while former Power custodian Liam Reddy has been rather solid under the sticks.

'BOZZA' FOR WESTERN AUSTRALIA?



Western Australian bound for Bosnich?

Former Socceroo custodian Mark Bosnich could well make a return home to football in Western Australia after the disgraced star was contacted last week to put on the Western Australian state colours.

Having had a horrendous time in the press after failing a drugs test earlier this year, the former Chelsea keeper has been out of action for quite some time now.

Soccer West Coast is doing all that it can to lure Bosnich to Western Australia with a bid

set to be delivered in the next few days for the 31-year-old to take part in the WA's friendly match against the Iraqi National side on November 16th.

Iraq, coached by former Perth Glory coach Bernd Stange will bring his squad to Western Australia as part of his preparations for the country's hopeful step towards the 2006 World Cup in Germany.

The man who has been employed by Soccer West Coast in persuading Bosnich to play has been former Socceroo star and current player agent Eddie Krncevic.

Known to be a close friend of Mark's, the former Stallions coach is said to be in strict negotiations with 'Bozza'.

"We are desperate to get him. The match is almost certain to go ahead and Mark Bosnich would be a great attraction. If he has not been snapped up by an English Premier League side before, he will have the chance of a match, all expenses paid and a healthy fee", Soccer West Coast general manager Paul Tombides stated.

After being dumped by Chelsea in January, the drug tests showed traces of cocaine and was banned for six months which ultimately came to an end last week.

One club that has been in contact with Bosnich has been newly promoted English Premier League side Portsmouth.

Fawkner to attract NSL names

Former Carlton assistant coach Fab Incantalupo has been appointed coach of Victorian Premier League outfit Fawkner Blues.

Incantalupo plans to boost Fawkner's playing squad for next season with the captures of ex-Melbourne Knights fullback Fausto de Amicis and Newcastle United striker Alex Moreira.

De Amicis was contemplating on retiring from the sport all up after his time at South Melbourne but was offered a life-line by the Blues to continue his footballing career. A solid and consistent defender and also one not shy of going forward, De Amicis will be a major asset to the Fawkner squad.

Moreira was on the verge of playing in the National League this season after interests from Sydney Olympic and United filtered through however nothing concrete eventuated.

The Brazilian marksman will add that 'samba' feeling to the VPL which certainly looks the goods for season 2003/2004.

Incantalupo's profile in the NSL is likely to see several more big-name NSL players pulling on the Fawkner jersey next season.



Fausto de Amicis has signed with VPL outfit Fawkner Blues next season.

Meanwhile, Preston Lions coach John Markovski is on his way to Whittlesea Stallions. Markovski enjoyed his time at the Lions who took out the Premiership for the past two seasons in the Victorian Premier League.

Jonesy replaces Phil Stubbins, who has agreed terms with Heidelberg United.

Lovell condemns plastic pitch

DUNFERMLINE's introduction of a new plastic pitch as part of a UEFA-backed trial of a new generation of synthetic surfaces has sparked a backlash from some of their Scottish Premier League rivals.

Perhaps predictably, the first team to lose on the new surface, Partick Thistle, have led the way with an appeal for their next match at Dunfermline's East End Park be switched to a traditional surface.

But Livingston's Australian captain, Stuart Lovell, has also got involved, saying he speaks for 90 per cent of players in opposing the experiment.

Partick's chief executive, Alan Dick, claims the introduction of the new surface

gives Dunfermline a huge advantage over their SPL rivals and that at least three other clubs share his view.

"The fact is the league is no longer fair," said Dick. "Dunfermline have an unfair advantage over everyone else."

Partick, who lost 2-1 at Dunfermline two weeks ago, have formally asked the Scottish Football Association for their second visit to the Fife club this season, scheduled for March 20, to be moved to another stadium.

But even Dick acknowledges there is little prospect of success. The SFA and the SPL gave the project a green light this (northern) summer and the surface, manufactured by Canadian company Symbior, under the brand name XL Turf

EF2003, passed a UEFA inspection at East End Park earlier this month.

Opponents of synthetic pitches claim they distort the game by changing the bounce of the ball and making players unwilling to tackle because of the risk of burns.

Some professionals also feel there is an increased risk of certain injuries, particularly in the knees and pelvic areas - an issue that is to be assessed during the two-year trial.

Lovell is among those players who are most sceptical about the new surface. The Sydney-born midfielder is convinced artificial playing surfaces will lead to an increase in the kind of knee ligament injuries which have dogged his career in recent years.

"I know people argue that things have developed and say that the bounce has improved and its more like grass but the fact remains that underneath it is not a natural surface," said the 31-year-old.

"It's claimed that these pitches are safe yet its impossible for anyone to have weighed up the long-term effects."

"I'm sure these surfaces have a bigger effect on players than grass in terms of wear and tear on the joints."

"There will be more ligament injuries, particularly of the knee, and players will struggle to play into their 30s if they are exposed to these



Stuart Lovell: Dunfermline's Aussie captain has condemned the club's plastic pitch.

pitches regularly. "For people like myself, whose had long-standing problems, it's not ideal. Psychologically, it makes a difference as well."

While Lovell is full of praise for the grass surface at Livingston's Almondvale ground, he believes training on a plastic surface has contributed to his problems and says Dunfermline's players are being put under pressure not to criticise their new 'turf'.

Lovell, who has been out of action since his latest ligament problem flared up in a pre-season friendly, is aiming for a first team recall for the SPL match against his old club Hibernian at Easter Road on October 18.

Tana asks Glory fans for patience

Perth Glory owner Nick Tana has urged fans to be patient regarding the club's new stadium. Speaking after Glory's 3-0 thumping of Melbourne Knights at Arena Joondalup, Tana told the West Australian: "I walked round the ground at half-time as I always do.

"Fans were complaining about parking, about lack of cover, lack of seats and the pitch being so far away. "I understand the frustration but plead with the fans to be patient."

"It is for only one more game, then Perth Oval will be ready at Christmas and we will have a state-of-the-art venue for them."

The Glory attracted 9,780 fans to Arena Joondalup in their first match of the season which has been clearly the best crowd statistic for the year so far.

Renowned for being the crowd pullers of Australian soccer, the Glory will certainly feel at home once Perth Oval finishes its final renovations.



Perth Glory chairman Nick Tana has urged fans to be patient with their new stadium.

SANTRAC SHATTERED BY WORLD CUP PERFORMANCE

They went in the FIFA Women's World Cup with high hopes, but in the end history was not created by the Qantas Matildas and has left a shattered coach Adrian Santrac, wondering where it all went wrong.

Knowing a win would keep the pressure on the Chinese and that it (a win) would its first at a World Cup, Australia went down 2-1 to Ghana in their final World Cup match.

"Obviously we're very disappointed at the result and the performance," said Santrac from Portland. "History continued against Ghana, we've gone through another World Cup without a win."

"The disappointment here tonight was the wasted opportunity. We had the opportunity to finish the highest position ever for an Australian women's team at the World Cup, we had the chance to finally win a game, and to put us on the map well and truly in Australia with the result we should have achieved tonight. It's a long line of disappointments - a missed opportunity."

From the outset of the match it was the Ghanaians who set the tempo of the match and it wasn't until the second half that Australia was able to get into the match.

"We were ready for this match and the girls knew the importance of it."

But when the game started, we

didn't", Santrac said emphatically. "The first half was particularly disappointing. Ghana as we expected came out and played with pride and passion and were committed. We were waiting for our team to begin to play. And as so often is the case, when you start to chase the game, it can be extremely difficult to try to turn things around."

"I'm still scratching my head wondering what happened in the first half and where our players were."

Asked if he thought the China

match took a lot out of the players physically and mentally, Santrac said he didn't really know what the reason for the performance was.

"I am not sure if that was the reason. The other three teams had to back up the same as us. We had a lot to play for today and at this level you must be up for all games no matter how draining the previous games might have been. The importance of the occasion should have cancelled out any physical effects the China match may have had on them."

What seemed to irk Santrac the

most was the results they didn't get compared to the result they did get at the tournament.

"We lost to teams that we should have beaten, but get a draw against a super power of the women's game. I believe that we are a better team technically than both Russia and Ghana, but the results will tell you otherwise."

Santrac's next big task upon returning is to assess the performances and start preparing for the 2004 Olympic Games Qualifiers in March 2004.

"We will come back to

Australia and do a thorough analysis of the preparation and the tournament and see where the problems were.

"In terms of age, almost the entire squad can compete at the next World Cup yet alone the Olympic Games, as I think the average of the squad was 23. Sacha Wainwright is the oldest player at 31, but she is the type of player that could carry on till then."

"There is a strong foundation for the future here, but a lot of work needs to be done between now and then."

"It is a matter for us to now learn from the experiences here in the US and make sure we benefit from them in future tournaments."

One player that certainly stood out of the Matildas was 20-year-old AIS graduate Heather Garriock.

The Sydney born star managed to notch up two of the Matildas goals and also had a say in many great moves pulled off by the side during the World Cup tournament.

It's been a heartbreaking year for Garriock as the Matildas star was dealt with the devastating news of the death of her younger brother Nathan, who was killed when a car ploughed into a group of teenagers at Nathan's friend's birthday party in Sydney some months back.

"He's my motivator. It has been a huge thing for me to come here



Devastated: Matildas star Diane Alagich shown in despair after their two-one loss to Ghana that all but ended their World Cup dreams.

and focus on the World Cup. It hasn't been easy for me. But the support from my family and friends back home has been phenomenal. And that is why I am here. My brother is with me in spirit", Garriock stated to 'ABC Radio'.

Just for her brother, Heather sported white boots during the World Cup in memory of Nathan who wore the same colour during his playing days for the Macarthur Rams.

"He wore white boots and that is why I wear white boots now. It is for my brother", the Matildas star stated to 'ABC Radio'.



The Matildas squad prior to their opening match against the Russians.

'Mitch' Could have been Adelaide Coach?

Former Glasgow Rangers striker and Parramatta Power coach David Mitchell confirmed he was sounded out for the coaching position at Adelaide United.

Mitchell had been employed full time by Feyenoord as their Asia Pacific scout. However its failure to qualify for the European Cup has forced the club to tighten its belt and end the full time relationship with Mitchell.

Mitchell, currently based in Sydney, said he would have been keen to return to Adelaide to take up the Adelaide United coaching reins.

Speaking on Coast FM, David Mitchell said he believed Adelaide United will be as successful as Perth Glory in the NSL. While the factional clubs had served soccer well in the past it was time to move forward with broad-based clubs that drew support from the whole community. In his view the Perth Glory and Adelaide United model will be followed by similar clubs interstate.

David Mitchell is good friends with United coach John Kosmina. Undoubtedly Kossie

will be calling on his mate during the season for tactical intelligence on the Sydney based NSL clubs.

Mitchell has also been involved with looking after certain youngsters who are currently playing their trade overseas.

Known once as being Feyenoord's chief Australian scout, two players who have left the shores thanks to Mitchell's input has been current Blackburn star Brett Emerton and rising Australian star Brett Holman.

Both players have been grabbing headlines in both England and Holland and its been no secret that the pair are the Socceroos future.

Meanwhile on the Adelaide United signing front, the side has signed a second batch of players for the new National League season following their initial first sign on players two weeks ago.

Richie Alagich, Shane Thompson, Elias Demourtzidis, Aaron Westervelt, Adriano Pellegrino and Matthew Kemp all inked contracts last week. They join Aurelio Vidmar, Kristian Rees, Michael Valkanis, Shane Smeltz, Nick Budin, David Scarsella and David Terminello.



David Mitchell could have been this year's Adelaide United coach.

SBS FAVOURITES TO LAND OZ SOCCER TV DEAL

Australian soccer's television rights are up for grabs after the Seven Network confirmed it would walk away from its current broadcast agreement with the sport.

Seven has agreed to relinquish its hold on the broadcast rights for the Socceroos and the national soccer league after Soccer Australia (SA) was killed off on Friday.

The replacement of SA with a new body called the Australian Soccer Association (ASA) was expected to render all existing SA contracts null and void anyway, including the one it signed in February with Seven to cover Socceroos and NSL games.

But Seven's director of corporate development Simon Francis confirmed the network would not fight to hang on to the sport under the current agreement.

Australian soccer's traditional home SBS is now considered favourite to pick up the TV rights to both Socceroos and national league games - including those of the reformed NSL planned for late 2004.

Francis said the network had been in talks with new ASA boss Frank Lowy leading up to Friday's announcement.

"As part of those discussions, we agreed to walk away from our current

television rights agreement," Francis said.

"We recognised the need for Frank Lowy to get on with business."

"We're keen to see a strong, robust soccer in Australia."

"We've formed a view that the best solution for Frank Lowy and his team is for us to show faith and walk away from the current agreement."



Seven's flirtation with soccer, which began when it signed a 10-year deal with then-Soccer Australia chairman David Hill in 1998, has been a disaster for both the network and the game.

For much of the past two years Seven has shown no NSL fixture games on free-to-air TV and just a handful of Socceroos matches, drawing strident criticism from leading soccer identities

and fans alike.

Lowy said the ASA would be negotiating with all media outlets, but the reformed national league would be critical to any new broadcast agreement.

"We'll be negotiating with all media outlets to put soccer on the map," he said.

"I don't want to comment on the past but whatever was paid (by Channel 7), the network didn't get its money's worth because the product wasn't right."

"We need to get soccer on TV but we also need to deliver the goods."

For the past few seasons since the collapse of Pay-TV outlet C7, many Australian soccer fans have been starved of watching any National League matches live on television.

Half an hour shows were dedicated to soccer at unsuitable time slots on channel 7 further aggravating the average soccer fan in Australia.

Even when channel 7 hosted the NSL Grand-Final live, commercials kept coming through as the game wore on.

'ABSW' this week was inundated with a number of calls of having 'SBS' telecast the National League like the good old days.

Only time will tell if this turns into a reality.



National Soccer League



After Round 3	TOTAL							PTS	HOME							AWAY						
	P	W	D	L	Bye	F	A		P	W	D	L	F	A		P	W	D	L	F	A	
NEWCASTLE UTD	3	2	1	0	0	5	3	7	1	1	0	0	2	1		1	1	1	0	3	2	
SYDNEY UNITED	2	2	0	0	1	3	1	6	1	1	0	0	2	1		1	1	0	0	1	0	
BRISBANE STRIKERS	3	1	2	0	0	4	2	5	2	0	2	0	1	1		1	1	0	0	3	1	
MARCONI STALLIONS	3	1	2	0	0	4	3	5	2	1	1	0	3	2		1	0	1	0	1	1	
SOUTH MELBOURNE	2	1	1	0	1	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0		2	1	1	0	4	0	
PARRAMATTA POWER	2	1	1	0	0	4	1	4	2	1	1	0	4	1		0	0	0	0	0	0	
PERTH GLORY	2	1	1	0	1	3	0	4	1	1	0	0	3	0		1	0	1	0	0	0	
NORTHERN SPIRIT	3	1	0	2	0	6	5	3	2	1	0	1	5	3		1	0	0	1	1	2	
MELBOURNE KNIGHTS	2	0	1	1	0	1	4	1	1	0	1	0	1	1		1	0	0	1	0	3	
SYDNEY OLYMPIC	2	0	1	1	0	1	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		2	0	1	1	1	5	
ADELAIDE UNITED	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	
FOOTBALL KINGZ	3	0	0	3	0	3	8	0	1	0	0	1	1	2		2	0	0	2	2	6	
WOLLONGONG WOLVES	3	0	0	3	0	1	7	0	2	0	0	2	0	5		1	0	0	1	1	2	

WOLLONGONG WOLVES 0
SOUTH MELBOURNE 4
(V Coveny 16', 53', M Curcija 78', S Poutakidis 92')

Referee: Mark Shield. Crowd: 2,005. Venue: .

Teams: WOLLONGONG WOLVES: Crews, Timpano, Jurilj, Hughes, Hawrysiuk (Cummins 73'), Lyons, Arrarte, Balabanel, DeGiovanniello (Young 60'), Majurovski (Austin 66'), Blake.

Subs Not Used: Whalan (WW)

SOUTH MELBOURNE: Galekovic, Osman, Storey, Durakovic (Poutakidis 46'), Kovacevic, Coveny © (Panopoulos 82'), Stergiopoulos, Lia, Lohy (Curcija 66'), Murdochca, Tunbridge.

Subs Not Used: Theoklitos (gk).

Cautions: J Timpano (WW) 19', N Arrarte (WW) 86', S Tunbridge (SM) 20'.

NORTHERN SPIRIT 4
(J Richter 47', I Ferguson 57', D Macallister 68', S Petrie 81')
SYDNEY OLYMPIC 0

Referee: Matthew Breeze. Crowd: 2,819. Venue: Pittwater Park.

Teams: NORTHERN SPIRIT: Henderson, Watts, O'Sullivan, Spencer ©, Ferguson, Macallister (Kwasnik 84'), Richter (Osman 82'), Hutchinson, Petrie, Wilinison, Milligan (Tomasevic 77').

Subs Not Used: Rex (gk).

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Trajceviski, Kohler, Juric ©, Schirripa, Cardozo, Alilovic, Bakis (Baird 73'), Bojic (Fyfe 46'), Karlovic (Baillie 75'), Ishida, Caravella.

Subs Not Used: Moss (gk).

Cautions: I Ferguson (NS) 17', N Spencer (NS) 38', J Richter (NS) 70', P Cardozo (SO) 54', A Juric (SO) 54'.

PARRAMATTA POWER 4
(T Todd 33', 36', 73', A Elrich 94')
FOOTBALL KINGZ 0
(T Martin 58')

Referee: Craig Zetter. Crowd: 1,616. Venue: Parramatta Stadium.

Teams: PARRAMATTA POWER: Bolton, Durante, Ceccoli ©, Colosimo (Zorbas 87'), Beauchamp, Thompson, Gumprecht, Rech (Dodd 27'), Pantelis (Sobczyk 92'), Buonavoglia, Elrich.

Subs Not Used: Vukovic (gk).

AUCKLAND KINGZ: Nicholson, Midtsian (Harries 46'), Collins, Tambouras, Jackson ©, Ngata, Rowley, Donoso, Scott (Campbell 81'), Seaman, Banks (Martin 46').

Subs Not Used: Townsend (gk).

Cautions: A Elrich (PP) 93', P Seamen (FK) 5', C Jackson (FK) 33', G Collins (FK) 93'.

**MELBOURNE KNIGHTS
 VS
 ADELAIDE UNITED
 (RESCHEDULED 8-2-04)**

BRISBANE STRIKERS 0
PERTH GLORY 0

Referee: Peter Green. Crowd: 3,042. Venue: Perry Park.

Teams: BRISBANE STRIKERS: Kearton, Dodd, Stefanutto, McCloughan, McLaren, Grierson ©, Fitzsimmons (Brain 76'), Pili, McKay, Rose (Brownlie 66'), Morley.

Subs Not Used: Webber, Higgins (gk).

PERTH GLORY: Petkovic, Horsley, Hassell (Bingley 79'), Murphy, Srhoj (Caceres 79'), Despotovski, North, Byrnes, Pondeljak, Mori, Coyne.

Subs Not Used: Danze, Matassa (gk).

Cautions: J Coyne (PG) 52', T Pondeljak (PG) 90'.

MARCONI STALLIONS 1
(A Costanzo 92')
NEWCASTLE UNITED 1
(R Middleby 54')

Referee: Eddie Lennie. Crowd: 2,068. Venue: Marconi Stadium.

Teams: MARCONI STALLIONS: Turnbull, Longo, Cosanzo, Casserly, Last (Broddie 78'), Spiteri, Maloney ©, Brosque (Anabalon 64'), Harris, Carle (Gibson 86'), Renaud. Subs Not Used: Alogdellis (gk).

NEWCASTLE UNITED: Willis, A Griffiths, Thomas, Owens (R Griffiths 73'), Johnson (Mitchell 76'), Tsekenis, Blagojevic, Wheelhouse, Masi, Brown, Middleby ©. Subs Not Used: Wilson, Perosh (gk).

Cautions: B Maloney (MS) 3', G Last (MS) 6', A Costanzo (MS) 81', J Spiteri (MS) 88, A Griffiths (NU) 10', P Tsekenis (NU) 66', G Owens (NU) 72'.

Red Cards: B Renaud (MS) 72', S Thomas (NU) 72'.

PLAYER OF THE WEEK



Parramatta Power super-sub Travis Dodd who replaced Fernando Rech after only twenty-seven was his side's hero after the ex-Newcastle star bagged a hat-trick in their four-one drubbing of the Kingz last week.

The three goals were to be Dodd's first for the club and showed more of an indication that he should be playing in the starting eleven.

ROUND 4

Fri 10-10-03

Newcastle United vs Parramatta

Sun 12-10-03

Football Kingz vs Perth Glory

Melbourne Knights vs Wollongong

South Melbourne vs Brisbane

Sydney Olympic vs Sydney United

Marconi vs Northern Spirit

Adelaide United - Bye

LEADING GOALSCORERS

Name	Club	Total
DODD Travis	Parramatta Power	3
MALONEY Brad	Marconi Stallions	3
WHEELHOUSE Jobe	Newcastle United	3
COVENY Vaughan	South Melbourne	2
MACALLISTER Dylan	Northern Spirit	2
MORLEY Luke	Brisbane Strikers	2
BAKIS Jim	Sydney Olympic	1
CACERES Adrian	Perth Glory	1
COSTANZO Angelo	Marconi Stallions	1
CURCIJA Michael	South Melbourne	1
ELRICH Ahmad	Parramatta Power	1
FERGUSON Ian	Northern Spirit	1
HUTCHINSON John	Northern Spirit	1
LANGDON Matthew	Sydney United	1
MAJUROVSKI John	Wollongong Wolves	1
MARTIN Tallan	Football Kingz	1
MASI Esala	Newcastle United	1
MIDDLEBY Robbie	Newcastle United	1

BYE - SYDNEY UNITED

2003 National Draft

Round 1	w/e 21 September 2003				Kick Off	Venue
Date	Club	vs	Club			
Fri 19-09-03	Wollongong Wolves	vs	Sydney United		7.35pm	WIN Stadium
Sat 20-09-03	Parramatta Power	vs	South Melbourne		6.30pm	Parramatta Stadium
Sun 21-09-03	Football Kingz	vs	Newcastle United		12.15pm	Ericsson Stadium
Sun 21-09-03	Melbourne Knights	vs	Marconi Stallions		3.00pm	Knights Stadium
Sun 21-09-03	Northern Spirit	vs	Brisbane Strikers		5.00pm	* Pittwater Park
Sun 30-11-03	Sydney Olympic	vs	Adelaide United		TBA	OKI Jubilee Stadium
BYE	Perth Glory					

Round 2	w/e 28 September 2003				Kick Off	Venue
Date	Club	vs	Club			
Wed 17-11-03	Adelaide United	vs	Parramatta Power		7.30pm	Hindmarsh Stadium
Fri 26-09-03	Newcastle United	vs	Northern Spirit		7.30pm	EnergyAustralia Stadium
Sat 27-09-03	Brisbane Strikers	vs	Sydney Olympic		7.00pm	* Perry Park
Sat 27-09-03	Marconi Stallions	vs	Wollongong Wolves		7.30pm	Marconi Stadium
Sun 28-09-03	Perth Glory	vs	Melbourne Knights		3.00pm	* Arena Joondalup
Sun 28-09-03	Sydney United	vs	Football Kingz		3.00pm	Sydney United Sports Centre
BYE	South Melbourne					

Round 3	w/e 5 October 2003				Kick Off	Venue
Date	Club	vs	Club			
Fri 03-10-03	Wollongong Wolves	vs	South Melbourne		7.35pm	WIN Stadium
Sat 04-10-03	Parramatta Power	vs	Football Kingz		6.30pm	Parramatta Stadium
Sat 04-10-03	Brisbane Strikers	vs	Perth Glory		7.00pm	* Perry Park
Sat 04-10-03	Marconi Stallions	vs	Newcastle United		7.30pm	Marconi Stadium
Sun 05-10-03	Melbourne Knights	vs	Adelaide United		6.00pm	Knights Stadium
Sun 05-10-03	Northern Spirit	vs	Sydney Olympic		5.00pm	* Pittwater Park
BYE	Sydney United					



Round 4	w/e 12 October 2003				Kick Off	Venue
Date	Club	vs	Club			
Fri 10-10-03	Newcastle United	vs	Parramatta Power		7.30pm	EnergyAustralia Stadium
Sun 12-10-03	Football Kingz	vs	Perth Glory		12.15pm	Ericsson Stadium
Sun 12-10-03	Melbourne Knights	vs	Wollongong Wolves		3.00pm	Knights Stadium
Sun 12-10-03	South Melbourne	vs	Brisbane Strikers		3.00pm	Bob Jane Stadium
Sun 12-10-03	Sydney Olympic	vs	Sydney United		3.00pm	OKI Jubilee Stadium
Sun 12-10-03	Marconi Stallions	vs	Northern Spirit		6.30pm	Marconi Stadium
BYE	Adelaide United					

Round 5	w/e 19 October 2003				Kick Off	Venue
Date	Club	vs	Club			
Fri 17-10-03	Adelaide United	vs	Brisbane Strikers		TBA	Hindmarsh Stadium
Fri 17-10-03	Newcastle United	vs	Wollongong Wolves		7.30pm	EnergyAustralia Stadium (Round 13 Fixture)
Sun 19-10-03	Football Kingz	vs	Melbourne Knights		12.15pm	Ericsson Stadium
Sun 19-10-03	Sydney Olympic	vs	Marconi Stallions		3.00pm	OKI Jubilee Stadium
Sun 19-10-03	South Melbourne	vs	Newcastle United		3.00pm	Bob Jane Stadium
Sun 19-10-03	Sydney United	vs	Parramatta Power		3.00pm	Sydney United Sports Centre
Sun 19-10-03	Northern Spirit	vs	Perth Glory		5.00pm	* Pittwater Park
BYE	Wollongong Wolves					

Round 6	w/e 26 October 2003				Kick Off	Venue
Date	Club	vs	Club			
Fri 24-10-03	Newcastle United	vs	Adelaide United		7.30pm	EnergyAustralia Stadium
Fri 24-10-03	Wollongong Wolves	vs	Football Kingz		7.35pm	TBA
Sat 25-10-03	Marconi Stallions	vs	Parramatta Power		7.30pm	Marconi Stadium
Sun 26-10-03	Melbourne Knights	vs	Northern Spirit		3.00pm	Knights Stadium
Sun 26-10-03	Sydney Olympic	vs	Perth Glory		4.00pm	OKI Jubilee Stadium
Sun 26-10-03	Sydney United	vs	South Melbourne		3.00pm	Sydney United Sports Centre
BYE	Brisbane Strikers					



Round 7	w/e 2 November 2003				Kick Off	Venue
Date	Club	vs	Club			
Sat 01-11-03	Brisbane Strikers	vs	Newcastle United		7.00pm	* Perry Park
Sun 02-11-03	Parramatta Power	vs	Perth Glory		4.00pm	Parramatta Stadium
Sun 02-11-03	Sydney Olympic	vs	Melbourne Knights		4.00pm	OKI Jubilee Stadium
TBA	Adelaide United	vs	Sydney United		TBA	Hindmarsh Stadium
Sun 02-11-03	Northern Spirit	vs	Wollongong Wolves		6.30pm	* Pittwater Park
Sun 02-11-03	South Melbourne	vs	Marconi Stallions		7.30pm	Bob Jane Stadium
BYE	Football Kingz					

Round 8	w/e 9 November 2003				Kick Off	Venue
Date	Club	vs	Club			
Fri 07-11-03	Wollongong Wolves	vs	Sydney Olympic		7.35pm	WIN Stadium
Sat 08-11-03	Football Kingz	vs	Northern Spirit		4.30pm	Ericsson Stadium
Sat 08-11-03	Parramatta Power	vs	Melbourne Knights		6.30pm	Parramatta Stadium
Sat 08-11-03	Marconi Stallions	vs	Adelaide United		7.30pm	Marconi Stadium
Sun 09-11-03	Perth Glory	vs	South Melbourne		3.00pm	* Arena Joondalup
Sun 09-11-03	Sydney United	vs	Brisbane Strikers		6.30pm	Sydney United Sports Centre
BYE	Newcastle United					

Round 9	w/e 16 November 2003				Kick Off	Venue
Date	Club	vs	Club			
TBA	Adelaide United	vs	Perth Glory		TBA	
Fri 14-11-03	Newcastle United	vs	Sydney United		7.30pm	
Fri 14-11-03	Wollongong Wolves	vs	Parramatta Power		7.35pm	
Sat 15-11-03	Marconi Stallions	vs	Brisbane Strikers		7.30pm	
Sun 16-11-03	Sydney Olympic	vs	Football Kingz		4.00pm	
Sun 16-11-03	Melbourne Knights	vs	South Melbourne		6.00pm	
Wed 19-11-03	Adelaide United	vs	Parramatta Power		7.30pm	
BYE	Northern Spirit					

Round 10	w/e 23 November 2003				Kick Off	Venue
Date	Club	vs	Club			
Fri 21-11-03	Newcastle United	vs	Sydney Olympic		7.30pm	
Sat 22-11-03	Brisbane Strikers	vs	Parramatta Power		7.00pm	
Sun 23-11-03	Football Kingz	vs	Marconi Stallions		4.30pm	
Sun 23-11-03	Northern Spirit	vs	Sydney United		6.30pm	
Sun 23-11-03	Wollongong Wolves	vs	Perth Glory		6.35pm	
Sun 23-11-03	South Melbourne	vs	Adelaide United		7.30pm	
BYE	Melbourne Knights					

Round 11	w/e 30 November 2003				Kick Off	Venue
Date	Club	vs	Club			
TBA	Adelaide United	vs	Wollongong Wolves		TBA	
Fri 28-11-03	Newcastle United	vs	Perth Glory		7.30pm	
Sat 29-11-03	Parramatta Power	vs	Northern Spirit		6.30pm	
Sat 29-11-03	Brisbane Strikers	vs	Melbourne Knights		7.00pm	
Sun 30-11-03	Sydney United	vs	Marconi Stallions		6.30pm	
Sun 30-11-03	South Melbourne	vs	Football Kingz		6.00pm	
Sun 30-11-03	Sydney Olympic	vs	Adelaide United		TBA	
BYE	Sydney Olympic					

Round 12	w/e 7 December 2003				Kick Off	Venue
Date	Club	vs	Club			
Fri 05-12-03	Wollongong Wolves	vs	Brisbane Strikers		7.35pm	
Sat 06-12-03	Perth Glory	vs	Sydney United		7.00pm	
Sat 06-12-03	Football Kingz	vs	Adelaide United		8.00pm	
Sun 07-12-03	Sydney Olympic	vs	Parramatta Power		5.00pm	
Sun 07-12-03	Melbourne Knights	vs	Newcastle United		6.00pm	
Sun 07-12-03	Northern Spirit	vs	South Melbourne		6.30pm	
BYE	Marconi Stallions					

Round 13	Wednesday 10 December 2003				Kick Off	Venue
Date	Club	vs	Club			
Fri 17-10-03	Newcastle United	vs	Wollongong Wolves		7.30pm	
Wed 10-12-03	Adelaide United	vs	Northern Spirit		TBA	
Wed 10-12-03	Brisbane Strikers	vs	Football Kingz		7.00pm	
Wed 10-12-03	Marconi Stallions	vs	Perth Glory		7.30pm	
Wed 10-12-03	South Melbourne	vs	Sydney Olympic		7.30pm	
Wed 10-12-03	Sydney United	vs	Melbourne Knights		7.30pm	
BYE	Parramatta Power					

Round 14	w/e 14 December 2003				Kick Off	Venue
Date	Club	vs	Club			
Fri 12-12-03	Newcastle United	vs	Football Kingz		7.30pm	
Sat 13-12-03	Brisbane Strikers	vs	Northern Spirit		7.00pm	
Sat 13-12-03	Marconi Stallions	vs	Melbourne Knights		7.30pm	
Sun 14-12-03	Sydney United	vs	Wollongong Wolves		6.30pm	
TBA	Adelaide United	vs	Sydney Olympic		TBA	
Sun 14-12-03	South Melbourne	vs	Parramatta Power		7.30pm	
BYE	Perth Glory					

Round 15	w/e 21 December 2003				Kick Off	Venue
Date	Club	vs	Club			
Fri 19-12-03	Football Kingz	vs	Sydney United		8.00pm	
Fri 19-12-03	Newcastle United	vs	South Melbourne		7.30pm	
Fri 19-12-03	Wollongong Wolves	vs	Marconi Stallions		7.35pm	
Sat 20-12-03	Parramatta Power	vs	Adelaide United		6.30pm	
Sun 21-12-03	Sydney Olympic	vs	Brisbane Strikers		5.00pm	
Sun 21-12-03	Melbourne Knights	vs	Perth Glory		6.00pm	
Sun 21-12-03	Northern Spirit	vs	Newcastle United		6.30pm	
BYE	South Melbourne					

Round 16	w/e 28 December 2003				Kick Off	Venue
Date	Club	vs	Club			
Fri 26-12-03	Newcastle United	vs	Marconi Stallions		7.20pm	
Sat 27-12-03	Perth Glory	vs	Brisbane Strikers		7.00pm	
Sat 27-12-03	South Melbourne	vs	Wollongong Wolves		7.30pm	
Sun 28-12-03	Sydney Olympic	vs	Northern Spirit		5.00pm	
TBA	Adelaide United	vs	Melbourne Knights		TBA	
Sun 28-12-03	Football Kingz	vs	Parramatta Power		8.00pm	
BYE	Sydney United					

Design by Carlos Furt

2004 League Now

Kick Off	Venue
pm	Hindmarsh Stadium
pm	EnergyAustralia Stadium
pm	WINS Stadium
pm	Marconi Stadium
pm	OKI Jubilee Stadium
pm	Knights Stadium
pm	Hindmarsh Stadium (Round 2 Fixture)

Kick Off	Venue
pm	EnergyAustralia Stadium
pm	* Perry Park
pm	Ericsson Stadium
pm	* Pithwater Park
pm	WINS Stadium
pm	Bob Jane Stadium

Kick Off	Venue
pm	Hindmarsh Stadium
pm	EnergyAustralia Stadium
pm	Paramatta Stadium
pm	* Perry Park
pm	Sydney United Sports Centre
pm	Bob Jane Stadium
pm	OKI Jubilee Stadium (Round 1 Fixture)

Kick Off	Venue
pm	WINS Stadium
pm	Perth Oval
pm	Ericsson Stadium
pm	OKI Jubilee Stadium
pm	Knights Stadium
pm	* Pithwater Park

Kick Off	Venue
pm	EnergyAustralia Stadium
pm	Hindmarsh Stadium
pm	* Perry Park
pm	Marconi Stadium
pm	Bob Jane Stadium
pm	Sydney United Sports Centre

Kick Off	Venue
pm	EnergyAustralia Stadium
pm	* Perry Park
pm	Marconi Stadium
pm	Sydney United Sports Centre
pm	Hindmarsh Stadium
pm	Bob Jane Stadium

Kick Off	Venue
pm	Ericsson Stadium
pm	EnergyAustralia Stadium (Round 18 Fixture)
pm	WINS Stadium
pm	Paramatta Stadium
pm	OKI Jubilee Stadium
pm	Knights Stadium
pm	* Pithwater Park

Kick Off	Venue
pm	EnergyAustralia Stadium
pm	Perth Oval
pm	Bob Jane Stadium
pm	OKI Jubilee Stadium
pm	Hindmarsh Stadium
pm	Ericsson Stadium

ando



Round 17	w/e 4 January 2004		Kick Off	Venue
Date	Club	vs	Club	
Sat 03-01-04	Paramatta Power	vs	Newcastle United	6:30pm Paramatta Stadium
Sat 03-01-04	Brisbane Strikers	vs	South Melbourne	7:00pm * Perry Park
Sat 03-01-04	Perth Glory	vs	Football Kingz	7:00pm Perth Oval
Sun 04-01-04	Sydney United	vs	Sydney Olympic	6:30pm Sydney United Sports Centre
Sun 04-01-04	Wollongong Wolves	vs	Melbourne Knights	6:35pm WINS Stadium
Sun 04-01-04	Northern Spirit	vs	Marconi Stallions	6:30pm * Pithwater Park
BYE	Adelaide United			

Round 18	Wednesday 7 January 2004		Kick Off	Venue
Date	Club	vs	Club	
Fri 19-12-03	Newcastle United	vs	South Melbourne	7:30pm EnergyAustralia Stadium
Wed 07-01-04	Paramatta Power	vs	Sydney United	6:30pm Paramatta Stadium
Wed 07-01-04	Melbourne Knights	vs	Football Kingz	7:30pm Knights Stadium
Wed 07-01-04	Perth Glory	vs	Northern Spirit	7:30pm Perth Oval
Wed 07-01-04	Brisbane Strikers	vs	Adelaide United	7:00pm * Perry Park
Wed 07-01-04	Marconi Stallions	vs	Sydney Olympic	7:30pm Marconi Stadium
BYE	Wollongong Wolves			

	w/e 11 January 2004		Kick Off	Venue
Date	Club	vs	Club	
Sat 10-01-04	Paramatta Power	vs	Marconi Stallions	6:30pm Paramatta Stadium
Sat 10-01-04	Perth Glory	vs	Sydney Olympic	7:00pm Perth Oval
Sun 11-01-04	Football Kingz	vs	Wollongong Wolves	2:30pm Ericsson Stadium
Sun 11-01-04	Northern Spirit	vs	Melbourne Knights	6:30pm * Pithwater Park
TBA	Adelaide United	vs	Newcastle United	Hindmarsh Stadium
Sun 11-01-04	South Melbourne	vs	Sydney United	7:30pm Bob Jane Stadium
BYE	Brisbane Strikers			

Round 20	w/e 18 January 2004		Kick Off	Venue
Date	Club	vs	Club	
Fri 16-01-04	Newcastle United	vs	Brisbane Strikers	7:30pm EnergyAustralia Stadium
Fri 16-01-04	Wollongong Wolves	vs	Northern Spirit	7:35pm WINS Stadium
Sat 17-01-04	Perth Glory	vs	Paramatta Power	7:00pm Perth Oval
Sat 17-01-04	Marconi Stallions	vs	South Melbourne	7:30pm Marconi Stadium
Sun 18-01-04	Sydney United	vs	Adelaide United	6:30pm Sydney United Sports Centre
Sun 18-01-04	Melbourne Knights	vs	Sydney Olympic	6:00pm Knights Stadium
BYE	Football Kingz			

Round 21	w/e 25 January 2004		Kick Off	Venue
Date	Club	vs	Club	
TBA	Adelaide United	vs	Marconi Stallions	TBA Hindmarsh Stadium
Sat 24-01-04	Brisbane Strikers	vs	Sydney United	7:00pm * Perry Park
Sun 25-01-04	Sydney Olympic	vs	Wollongong Wolves	6:00pm OKI Jubilee Stadium
Sun 25-01-04	Melbourne Knights	vs	Paramatta Power	6:00pm Knights Stadium
Sun 25-01-04	Northern Spirit	vs	Football Kingz	6:30pm * Pithwater Park
Mon 26-01-04	South Melbourne	vs	Perth Glory	4:00pm Bob Jane Stadium
BYE	Newcastle United			

Round 22	w/e 1 February 2004		Kick Off	Venue
Date	Club	vs	Club	
Sat 31-01-04	Paramatta Power	vs	Wollongong Wolves	6:30pm Paramatta Stadium
Sat 31-01-04	Brisbane Strikers	vs	Marconi Stallions	7:00pm * Perry Park
Sat 31-01-04	Perth Glory	vs	Adelaide United	7:00pm Perth Oval
Sat 31-01-04	South Melbourne	vs	Melbourne Knights	7:30pm Bob Jane Stadium
Sat 31-01-04	Football Kingz	vs	Sydney Olympic	8:00pm Ericsson Stadium
Sun 01-02-04	Sydney United	vs	Newcastle United	6:30pm Sydney United Sports Centre
BYE	Northern Spirit			

Round 23	w/e 8 February 2004		Kick Off	Venue
Date	Club	vs	Club	
TBA	Adelaide United	vs	South Melbourne	TBA Hindmarsh Stadium
Sat 07-02-04	Paramatta Power	vs	Brisbane Strikers	6:30pm Paramatta Stadium
Sat 07-02-04	Perth Glory	vs	Wollongong Wolves	7:00pm Perth Oval
Sat 07-02-04	Marconi Stallions	vs	Football Kingz	7:30pm Marconi Stadium
Sun 08-02-04	Sydney United	vs	Northern Spirit	6:30pm Sydney United Sports Centre
Sun 08-02-04	Sydney Olympic	vs	Newcastle United	6:00pm OKI Jubilee Stadium
Sun 08-02-04	Melbourne Knights	vs	Adelaide United	6:00pm Knights Stadium (Round 3 Fixture)
BYE	Melbourne Knights			



Round 24	w/e 15 February 2004		Kick Off	Venue
Date	Club	vs	Club	
Fri 13-02-04	Football Kingz	vs	South Melbourne	7:30pm Ericsson Stadium
Fri 13-02-04	Wollongong Wolves	vs	Adelaide United	7:35pm WINS Stadium
Sat 14-02-04	Perth Glory	vs	Newcastle United	7:00pm Perth Oval
Sat 14-02-04	Marconi Stallions	vs	Sydney United	7:30pm Marconi Stadium
Sun 15-02-04	Melbourne Knights	vs	Brisbane Strikers	6:00pm Knights Stadium
Sun 15-02-04	Northern Spirit	vs	Paramatta Power	6:30pm * Pithwater Park
BYE	Sydney Olympic			

Round 25	w/e 22 February 2004		Kick Off	Venue
Date	Club	vs	Club	
TBA	Adelaide United	vs	Football Kingz	TBA Hindmarsh Stadium
Fri 20-02-04	Newcastle United	vs	Melbourne Knights	7:30pm EnergyAustralia Stadium
Sat 21-02-04	Paramatta Power	vs	Sydney Olympic	6:30pm Paramatta Stadium
Sat 21-02-04	Brisbane Strikers	vs	Wollongong Wolves	7:00pm * Perry Park
Sun 22-02-04	South Melbourne	vs	Northern Spirit	4:00pm Bob Jane Stadium
Sun 22-02-04	Sydney United	vs	Perth Glory	6:30pm Sydney United Sports Centre
BYE	Marconi Stallions			

Round 26	w/e 29 February 2004		Kick Off	Venue
Date	Club	vs	Club	
Sun 29-02-04	Football Kingz	vs	Brisbane Strikers	TBA Ericsson Stadium
Sun 29-02-04	Wollongong Wolves	vs	Newcastle United	TBA WINS Stadium
Sun 29-02-04	Northern Spirit	vs	Adelaide United	TBA * Pithwater Park
Sun 29-02-04	Perth Glory	vs	Marconi Stallions	TBA Perth Oval
Sun 29-02-04	Melbourne Knights	vs	Sydney United	TBA Knights Stadium
Sun 29-02-04	Sydney Olympic	vs	South Melbourne	TBA OKI Jubilee Stadium
BYE	Paramatta Power			

from the

dressing sheds

by Mark Stavroulakis



YOUNG SOCCEROOS SELECTED

After months of waiting for the final okay as to where and when the U20 World Youth cup will take place, the UAE has again gained the nomination of staging the big event.

Being on stand-by due to the War conflict that affected the Middle-East between Iraq and the U.S., soccer again has been put back on the map in the Arab states.

Last week, Under 20 coach Ange Postecoglou pencilled in a 22-man squad for their two friendly matches against the host nations UAE on the 16th and 19th of October.

Speaking to ABSW's Franco Mula, Postecoglou stated that the two match series will be a key indicator on how the squad will fair coming up to the World Cup.

"There is a mix of overseas players and domestic based players, the two matches will help us gel as a team and give me and the rest of the coaches an indication of how we will fair in the World Youth Championship".

Five new faces will make their debuts in the two friendly hit-outs against the UAE.

Former Everton youth player David Carney, current Perth Glory midfielder Anthony Danze, Former Sydney United first teamer Mile Jedinak (Currently playing for Croatian side Varteks), Melbourne Knights youngster Steve Pantelidis and Newcastle's gun striker Jobe Wheelhouse will all be making their first appearances for the Green and Gold side.

Doubts were raised on two players, Carney in particular, who were selected for the squad and are currently without a club casting queries on their initial selection.

David Carney, after being let go

by Everton is currently looking for a club while only a few days ago Olympic Sharks striker Franco Parisi who returned from unsuccessful trials from Italy signed a deal with Sydney United.

The Young Socceroos have been placed in a tough group consisting of Brazil, the Czech Republic and Canada.



Inter Milan's Primavera keeper Nathan Coe is tipped to be the Young Socceroos starting keeper.

One surprise name not enter Ange's fold was Excelsior star striker Brett Holman.

After not being able to take part in the initial Oceania Qualifiers for the World Cup, Holman was left out of the squad.

During that time however, the former Power striker has played with the U23's squad that recently took on Turkey and just recently was included on the Socceroos bench against the Jamaicans in England.

Full info on the squad turn to page 4.

PETERSON NOT GOING TO GULLY

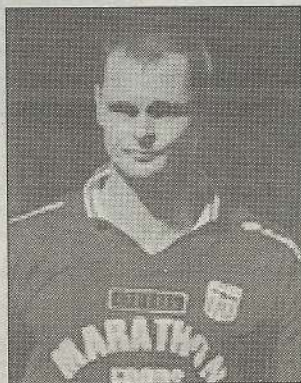
Contrary to reports from Tribalfutbol.com last week that former South Melbourne coach Mike Peterson was set to join Victorian Premier League champi-

ons Green Gully has been labelled a myth.

According to Green Gully President Charles Farrugia, the club has never contacted Peterson. "We did not know where this story came from, as far as I know we've never contacted Peterson for the job".

Last year's Gully coach Ian Dobson left the club at the end of the season due to his new commitments with National League side Melbourne Knights.

It is expected in the next few weeks from the clubs close sources that a new coach will be named - a high profile one is rumored to be on the list.



Mike Peterson is NOT going to coach the Gully this year.

PARISI SIGNS WITH SYDNEY UNITED

Franco Parisi, current Young Socceroo, has agreed to terms with Sydney United for 2003/2004 season. Last season, with the Olympic Sharks, Franco scored 9 goals, from limited opportunities, only 6 of his total appearances were starts. At United, Parisi should add extra power to the forward line.

It's believed that Parisi will be knocking off to Europe once more for a possible move to an overseas club.



Franco Parisi has signed on the dotted line with Sydney United.

New coach Grant Lee currently has a number of good young stars under his belt. Midfielders Anthony Doumanis, Labinot Haliti, George Nohra and Christian Cevenini while strikers Parisi, Tolgay Ozbey and Paul Ivanic are all under the ages of 21 and will be used frequently this season.

DID YOU KNOW - NSL FACTS

PLAYER MILESTONES

Perth Glory's WAYNE SRHOJ played his 100th NSL appearance last Saturday when the Glory took on Brisbane Strikers at Perry Park. Srhoj commenced his NSL career as a 15 year old at the Strikers in 1997/98, before joining Olympic in 2001/02. The 21 year old midfielder joined Perth this season.

STAT SPOT: HE'S BACK - FINALLY

SHAUN MURPHY of Perth Glory two weeks ago played his first NSL match for 11 years and

211 days - the SECOND LONGEST absence in NSL history. Murphy had previously played for Heidelberg in the 1991/92 season, before setting off for England where he played for Notts County, WBA, Sheffield United and Crystal Palace. Jason Kearton, currently of Brisbane Strikers, holds the record for longest NSL absence, when he returned to the NSL in October 2001 after several seasons in England.

LONGEST NSL ABSENCES

- last match before and first match after absence

13y 59d Jason Kearton 07.08.88 (Brisbane Lions) / 05.10.01 (Brisbane Strikers)

11y 211d Shaun Murphy 01.03.92 (Heidelberg) / 28.09.03 (Perth Glory)

11y 147d David Mitchell 08.09.85 (Sydney City) / 02.02.97 (Sydney Olympic)

11y 146d Lou Hristodoulou 07.09.86 (West Adelaide) / 31.01.98 (West Adelaide)

11y 134d Peter Dwyer 22.05.88 (Brisbane Lions) / 03.10.99 (Brisbane Strikers)

10y 110d Jim Patikas 28.08.85 (Sydney United) / 16.12.95 (Sydney United)

10y 84d Chris Kalantzis 13.07.87 (Sydney Olympic) / 05.10.97 (Sydney Olympic)

10y 55d Alan Reis 14.09.86 (Brisbane City) / 08.11.96 (Canberra Cosmos)

10y 7d John Anastasiadis 27.09.87 (Heidelberg) / 04.10.97 (South Melbourne)

9y 173d Jimmy Webber 22.08.79 (Sydney City) / 11.02.89 (APIA Leichhardt)

STAT SPOT: SQUAD SHUFFLES

In round one of the 2003/04 sea-

son, Sydney United used NINE players who were making their NSL debuts for the club. Excluding teams entering or re-entering the league, this is the second highest number of club debuts for a team in one match in NSL history.

MOST CLUB DEBUTANTS IN A MATCH - excluding teams entering or re-entering the league

13 - MORWELL FALCONS (07.04.01)

Miles Downie, Ross Duckworth, Craig Elvin, Alex McDermid, Matt McDermott, Denis Mustac, Eamon O'Hare, Milos Petrevski, Anthony Phassoulotis, Lou Trebbia, Max Walmaggia, Scott Webster, Simon Webster.

9 - SYDNEY UNITED (19.09.03)

Labinot Haliti, Dean Heffernan, David Huxley, Paul Ivanic, Matthew Langdon, George Nohra, Tolgay Ozbey, Liam Reddy, Antony Zmire.

9 - BLACKTOWN (30.03.86)

Jeff Ainsworth, Tony Brennan, Joe Carroll, Dave Curtis, Peter Denyer, Darren Northam, David Sharpe, Robbie Slater, Peter Willis.

Not far behind is the current Sydney Olympic squad - in Olympic's first match for the season last weekend, there were EIGHT players who were playing for the club for the first time.

8 - SYDNEY OLYMPIC (27.09.03)

Denis Alilovic, Michael Baird, Jim Bakis, Predrag Bojic, Iain Fyfe, Ivan Karlovic, Joseph Schirripa, Peco Trajceviski.

photooftheweek



Melbourne Knights attacking star Henry Fa'Arodo shown in full stretch of the ball during their clash against the Marconi Stallions. Fa'Arodo has been one of the Knights' most outstanding players and looks set to continue that trend this season.

Wollongong News

By Otto Bader

Critical Time for Wolves --

Not the best of starts which is a disappointment for all. Now is the time to knuckle down, back to basic play and no fancy tactics, attack, attack, eliminate fundamental errors.

The boys are training well according to coach John Turner getting ready to climb another mountain.

Out of action at present are Bobby Dragas injured and Vlado Zoric still suffering from a handicap troubled leg injury still to be diagnosed properly. Most likely youngster Dustin Wells making the Australian U/20's will not be available for several weeks.

Incoming players are youngsters John Majurovski, Liam Austin and Jacob Timpano - all 'NSL-Babies' however talented to make an impact.

Local soccer fans need to be patient and should come out in numbers to cheer the battling Wolves on to victory.

Wolves Youth Team Striving --

After two games with two wins the Wolves youngsters find themselves on top of the table. Obviously coach Eddie Tesoro is thriving but must keep any overflowing temper under control. The

tough yards are not far away, the next game is always the hardest. The squad according to the coach is a very talented bunch of players who are each match substituted by seniors not selected in first grade. That causes some disturbance and some youth graders are not making the starting eleven.

The boys understand the dilemma confronting the coaching staff and work at training for their chance to come and shine.

From his squad of 19 players 16 are Wollongong based. All of them providing they avoid injuries will be eligible to tour Europe next April to represent their club, City and country. The youth team does deserve all support possible from local fans, the progress of soccer in the area depends on healthy youth development.

Eddie Tesoro and his youngsters are hard on promotion and fund raising for a 16 to 17 days European trip planned for April 2004. Wollongong surely will come to the party and acknowledge the effort and enthusiasm of the Wolves Youth Development work.

Any eager adult supporter intending to accommodate the team to Europe or able to assist in fund raising please contact Eddie Tesoro on 0407 791 346 or the Wolves office on phone 02 42 26 39 88, email wolves@learth.net

NSW Winter Super League Awards Preview

BY GREG STOCK

SILVER MEDAL MYSTERY

With the on field exploits well behind us, the soccer spotlight shifts to the Le Montague Function Centre in Leichhardt this Friday night for the Winter season awards night, which will see a new winner crowned with the prestigious Silver Medal.

Awarded to the Best and Fairest player from the Winter Super League competition, the medal is given to the player who accumulates the most points awarded by the opposing teams captain on a 3-2-1 basis for all games throughout the season.

Last season, the winner was Hajduk Wanderers striker Tim Gledhill, and while he is expected to again poll well, it would be no surprise to see a new name come from a raft of possible candidates.

In accordance with FIFA's fair play policy, the medal will only go to a player who has not received a red card throughout the year. For a number of profile candidates that means that they will be excluded from being declared the winner, thus ruling out some of the favorites such as Tanju Balabanel, Robert Sacco and Mark Abi-Arrage.

Shifting the wheat from the chaff in the buildup to this night of nights is no easy feat with a number of names catching the eye with strong performances all the way through the season.

On the first line of betting Fraser Park's dynamic midfielder Antonio Faria is expected to poll well, as will Crescent Star skipper Yavuz Ekinci. Faria put a couple of frustrating years behind him bouncing back from injury to score 13 goals and lead the Dragons to the Grand Final.

A constant threat anywhere on the park his presence down the right hand side of the Fraser Park mid-

fielder saw him rise to a new level, which is almost certain to see him snare a Premier League club for the summer season. From his spot directing traffic for Crescent Star, Ekinci also returned to the spotlight and it was his ability to keep his forwards well supplied with quality ball that led Crescent Star to the title.

Expect Ekinci to pick up votes, as will Sutherland forward Derek Poirer. A former National League player Poirer had an enigmatic season but was always amongst his sides best few performers and that should ensure he does well.

AC United should expect their midfielder Chris Giometti to do well with the scratching of Robbie Sacco, while Hajduk should feel quietly confident on the form of a couple of their boys. Striker Navid Vares had a strong second half to the season while Nahual Arrarte was always impressive with his deft footwork and speed.

Ryde City's Robbie Portelli had his best season in years, as did Peter Munsie in a losing side at Macarthur. These two may well figure significantly in the final count.

Munsie's teammates Gary Seymour and Andrew Borg shone out like beacons and to see them pick up votes would not surprise.

When looking for a few 'smokeys', expect veterans Alex Araujo (MSC Liverpool) and George Kalogeras to come home with a wet sail. Both players are in the twilight of their careers but both again proved their worth with inspirational performances, especially in the second round.

Others in the 'smokey' category include speedy forward Jean Loop Rousseau from Dulwich Hill,



Yavuz Ekinci has to be in with a chance for the Silver Medal

MSC Liverpool defender extraordinaire Peter Moon and a couple of the Hawks finest in defender John Theodoropoulos and Anthony Sarmonikas. Despite all three teams missing out on the semi-finals there were some fine performances from those players.

Moving onto the other major awards of the evening, the Coach of the Year should prove to be a race in three between Yasin Ozdenak from Crescent Star, Ian Gillan from Fraser Park and Tommy McCulloch from Hajduk Wanderers. Having finished one, two and five respectively, McCulloch undoubtedly threw his hat into the ring with a late run through the finals which saw his side almost repeat their 2002 success in making back-to-back Grand Finals.

Ian Gillan did exceptionally well to take his side to within a breath of the double in his first year as a senior coach, while Ozdenak's flair for turning his side into a goalscoring machine and winning the double is very hard to go past.

The Goalkeeper of the Year award is also a tough one to pick. The favourite would be Steve Angelov from Fraser Park who had a strong year, though he is expected to get some strong competition from Daniel Schwarzer (Hajduk Wanderers), Claudio Fernandez (AC United) and Peter Trajceviski (Hurstville City Minotaurs) who previously won this award back in 2000 with Dulwich Hill. Macarthur's Peter Munsie is also in with a chance in this category.

Good luck to all contestants and may the best man win!



Sydney Crescent Star coach Yasin Ozdenak is a possibility for the Coach of the Year Award



Fraser Park's Steve Angelov is a warm favourite for the Goalkeeper of the Year Award



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SUPER LEAGUE SEASON IN REVIEW

WITH GREG STOCK



A.C. UNITED



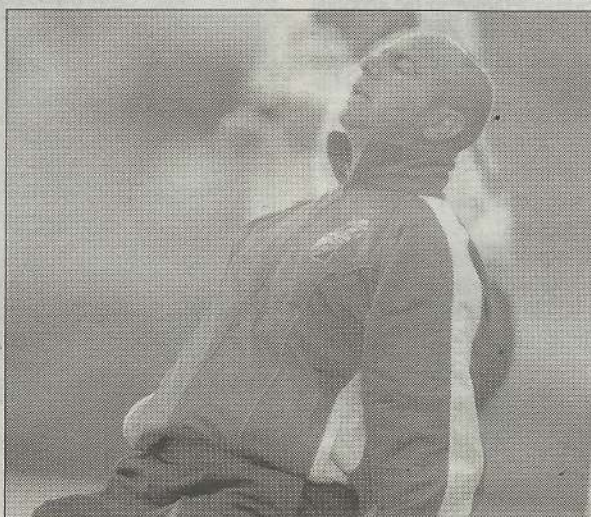
Position: 4th – Won 12 Drawn 7 Lost 5 – Points 43
Coach: Nick Porecca

An excellent season from debutante senior coach Nick Porecca, had AC marked out as a 'smokey' for the final series. While they were eliminated early their fans can feel well satisfied that they achieved their ambitions and made the post season. Of all the sides in the top five they had the dubious honour of being the team which had scored the least number of goals, a lack of quality forwards costing them a chance to finish higher.

Streaks: One loss in their first eight games saw AC move into second spot early, the momentum enough to keep them inside the top five all the way through.

Season Turning Point: Their 3-0 loss to Crescent Star in the final game of the season. A win or draw in that match would have allowed them to finish in third spot and with it, the double chance in the post season.

Best Win: A gutsy 2-1 win over Crescent Star the previous week at Abruzzi Field. Under relentless second half pressure they gutsed out the final twenty minutes and booked themselves a spot in the top five.



Nick Porecca experiences the agony of football

Worst Defeat: 2-1 loss in the elimination final against Hajduk. Nobody can put a finger on it, but it wasn't the same AC side who fell behind 2-0 early and never looked likely to stage a fightback.

Players who starred: Chris Giometti and skipper Robbie Sacco were the lifeblood of the team and both deserve special mention. No frills types of players they always gave 100 percent and kept the side moving. Goalkeeper Claudio Fernandez showed he is still a class act, saving the teams bacon when it mattered while Robbie Grubba held the defence together with his usual aplomb.

Players who didn't: Zia Younan was absolutely sensational in the first ten games before a leg injury curtailed his season. Johnny Ghiso failed to recapture his best Premier League form and had a somewhat disappointing year by his lofty standards — he'll be looking to next year to re-ignite the flame.

The Future: Nick Porecca's reappointment is a great move and if he can hold the majority of his squad he'll have a strong base from which to work. While the AC youth system will continue to push up some talented youngsters what is desperately needed is a quality forward who can take this team to the next level. The club's future at Super League level appears bright.



HAJDUK WANDERERS



2003 was a challenging but successful season for the Wanderers

Position: 5th – Won 11 Drawn 9 Lost 4 – Points 42
Coach: Tommy McCulloch

Another solid year from Hajduk who showed that a hardworking team can almost always beat a team of individuals if they put their mind to it. Coach Tommy McCulloch ought to be commended for the way in which he put this team together, short on class they more than made up for it by being the fittest and hardest working in the league and were always difficult to break down. Their run into the final series mirrored season 2002, this time however, they fell at the final hurdle and were unable to make the Grand Final.

Streaks: One loss in their last ten games saw the Wanderers move from as low as eighth into the top five, confirming their place with two effortless wins over strugglers Macarthur Rams in the final two matches.

Season Turning Point: A penalty shoot-out with Crescent Star in the Preliminary Final to decide who would go through to the Grand Final. If lady luck had have smiled on them it could have been them holding up the Championship trophy instead of Crescent Star.

Best Win: The Minor Semi-Final in which they knocked out a much more classy opponent in Sutherland 2-1, with sheer guts and determination.

Worst Defeat: The most heart wrenching defeat would have been their elimination on penalties by Crescent Star in the Preliminary Final. To fall so close would have been utterly disappointing.

Players who starred: Navid Vares on the Hajduk forward line had a strong season alongside Nahual Arrarte. Mark Abi-Arrage defied father time by posting yet another solid season while Daniel Schwarzer between the sticks improved out of sight.

Players who didn't: Tim Gledhill won the silver medal last year for the best and fairest player in the Super League but this season he was a mere shadow of his former self. Bugged down with chronic hamstring problems, the young striker was severely restricted, finishing the year with just 10 goals.

The Future: Another club at the crossroads and looking for a strong coaching replacement for Tommy McCulloch. The club is well-settled at it Hajduk Stadium complex, an excellent springboard to future growth.



STANMORE HAWKS



Position: 6th – Won 11 Drawn 4 Lost 9 – Points 37
Coaches: Peter Papinakitas 15 games, Vince Estavilio 7 games, Sotiri Mavros 2 games

At the halfway mark of the season the Hawks were in second spot on the ladder and looked odds-on favourites to finish well inside in the top five, and possibly even top three. With a young enthusiastic squad at his disposal, coach Peter Papinakitas had them firing on all cylinders with a mixture of speed and agility on the forward line coupled with a no nonsense work ethic at the back. But when Papinakitas left to join Sydney Olympic, the wheels fell off entirely and what looked like on the best Hawks seasons in years, finished in tears.

Streaks: Nine matches without a win from June 25th to August 10th saw the Hawks spiral out of contention for the top five and into the maelstrom of the also-rans.

Season Turning Point: Without question, the loss of coach Peter Papinakitas. A young team short on experience was unable to handle the trauma of a new coach, and a new playing style, which was thrust upon them at a vital stage of the year.



Vince Estavilio had a shocking run as Hawks coach

Best Win: Their 3-0 win over eventual semi-finalists Sutherland in round nine was just sensational. Their short passing game and harassing defensive style opening up the Sharks like a can of worms.

Worst Defeat: The Hawks lack of belief in themselves hit and all-time low when they were clearly outpointed in a 2-1 loss to MSC Liverpool on July 13th.

Players who starred: Anthony Sarmonikas and Steve Liavas has outstanding years on the forward line with both players looking destined for higher honors. Chris Hunt in the engine room also caught the eye with non-stop workrate a highlight — he is definitely a star in the making.

Players who didn't: Two years ago he was one of the brightest young stars in the state league, but Andrew Falas was a complete disappointment this season as he battled a chronic leg injury.

The Future: The future of the Hawks rests entirely with the appointment of next year's coach. The job really needs to go to someone who has the ability to create a positive environment in which their young squad can develop. But the club has been around for a while and its long term future still looks bright.



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SUPER LEAGUE SEASON IN REVIEW

WITH GREG STOCK



SYDNEY CRESCENT STAR



Position: 1st – Won 15 Drawn 5 Lost 4 – Points 50
Coaches: Yasin Ozdenak

Three years ago, Sydney Crescent Star were a fledging side in the old Third Division. This year, not only have they won the Premiership/Championship double, but they also look likely to gain promotion to the Premier League and be mixing it alongside the best clubs in the state. With an army of loyal fans creating a positive atmosphere everywhere they went, they were the leagues entertainers capable of winning games with an all out attacking style, but also as likely to concede goals through a leaky defence. Never a dull moment at a Crescent Star game!

Streaks: Undeclared for their first eleven games they raced to the top of the competition table and put daylight between themselves and all their opponents.

Season Turning Point: Their penalty shoot out with Hajduk in the Preliminary Final could have gone either way. Goalkeeper Steve Tolios proving his worth at both ends of the park, saving one shot and then knocking home the winner.

Best Win: Without question, their 3-2 win in the Grand Final.



Sydney Crescent Star had many reasons to celebrate in 2003

They should have been down and out at halftime but they hung in there, finally nailing Fraser Park two minutes from the end with a Philip Marzec header.

Worst Defeat: Sutherland knocked them over 2-1 in a spiteful round 23 match opening the door for Fraser Park to make their run for top spot.

Players who starred: The spotlight was well and truly on Tanju Balabanel, his 26 goals from 22 games testament to the fact that he is a star in the making. Captain courageous Yavus Ekinici always led from the front while goalkeeper Steve Tolios showed his class in returning from a broken leg and starring in the post season.

Players who didn't: What has happened to Huseyin Bayhan and Hussein Jomaa? Both have played at National League but failed to consistently produce their best in an enigmatic season.

The Future: For Crescent Star, the prospect of back-to-back seasons and a shot at the Premier League will be a solid test for their playing depth. No side who has been promoted from the Winter Super League has ever made the post season in their debut year and it will be interesting to see if they're all out attacking style will see them as the first.



FRASER PARK DRAGONS



Position: 2nd – Won 15 Drawn 4 Lost 5 – Points 49
Coaches: Ian Gillan

A brilliant season from the Dragons saw them go agonizingly close in both the Premiership race and the Grand-Final. Under the stewardship of Ian Gillan the club built on their strong 2002 season and was one of the most consistent sides all year. Their ambitious work off the field in establishing a link with the St George Rugby League Club should be highly commended with the club showcasing the game to a new generation of fans at Kogarah's Jubilee Oval.

Streaks: An unbeaten run of eight games saw the Dragons make a late surge for the Premiership trophy as Crescent Star got the wobbles.

Season Turning Point: The first forty five minutes of the Winter Super League Grand Final. All over Crescent Star like a rash they were unable to translate opportunities into goals and paid the price by allowing their opponents to sneak a late winner.

Best Win: While their round five 8-0 thrashing of Ryde City deserves special mention, their Major Semi-Final win over Crescent Star in extra time saw them move through to the Grand Final with an

all-important week off.

Worst Defeat: Round Two, they were taken apart by Crescent Star and after two losses from two games they looked anything but Premiership material.

Players who starred: Anthony Faria was without question head and shoulders above everyone else and should poll well in the voting for the Silver Medal. Veteran Martin Bourke in the midfield defied father time and had an excellent year, while Scott Wells and Greg Collins were ultra consistent.

Players who didn't: An injury plagued year for the very classy George Zabetakis was disappointing as coach Ian Gillan was counting on his experience to marshal the troops at the back. The consummate professional we have our fingers crossed he can cast his injuries aside and return next season to show us the deft footwork and skill that made him a Greek youth international.

The Future: A possible promotion to the Premier League seems to have eluded the Dragons at every turn and one must wonder where they go from here. Harnessing ambition that extends well beyond the Winter Super League their fans will hope that 2004 can finally be their year and they can take their place at the Premier League table.



Scott Wells was one of Fraser Park's most consistent players in 2003



SUTHERLAND SHARKS



Position: 3rd – Won 12 Drawn 7 Lost 5 – Points 43
Coaches: John Turner 13 games, Vic Ellul 11 games plus 2 semi-finals

The early favorites for the title, the Sharks managed to put behind them two years of sub standard Premier League performances and made a name for themselves in 2003. Securing the services of coach John Turner they attracted some quality players to the fold before he left midseason to take up a position with Wollongong City. His replacement Vic Ellul continuing the good work, but a lack of squad depth in the post season ultimately sealed their fate.

Streaks: Their last nine matches saw them lose just twice and put together 19 competition points, enough to finish in the top three and earn the double chance.

Season Turning Point: Their 4-0 loss to Fraser Park at Kogarah Oval on June 15th shook them up and from there they never looked back.

Best Win: Needing to win their final game by three goals against Ryde City to have any chance of finishing third, the Sharks turned it on big time scoring four first half goals to win the game in a canter.



Palmistry? Who knows what the future holds for Sutherland

Worst Defeat: Their 2-1 loss in the Minor Semi-Final to Hajduk finished their season on a low point. What is most frustrating to Sharks fans was their lamentable first half, which cost them any chance for a win.

Players who starred: The midseason recruitment of Jason Connolly and Paul Bourke gave the team an extra dimension. Derek Poimer had an enigmatic season but did enough when it counted while Andrew Smith looked sharp before his departure for trials in Wollongong. Paul Candelori was another to shine while sweeper Mathew Dihm was always there when it mattered.

Players who didn't: The loss of local protégé Kris Karanosis before a ball had even been kicked was a costly one. His pace and energy would have been a huge factor to a side that was one of the oldest and slowest in the league.

The Future: Who can tell with Sutherland? The biggest junior area in the state needs to have it's senior club do well but time and time again we have seen the Sharks return to the doldrums after beginning to show some life. Re-signing Vic Ellul would be a positive move and giving him a decent budget to recruit some quality talent would be another.



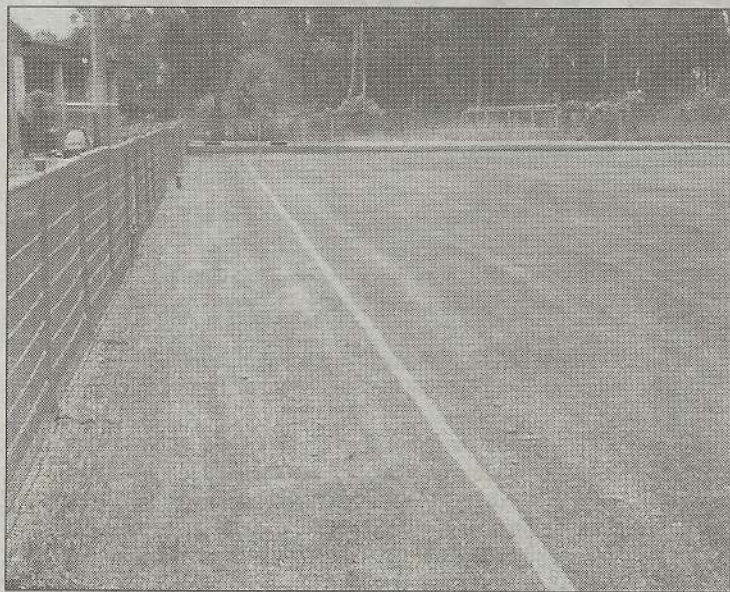
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FROM THE SIDELINES

WITH GREG STOCK



APIA 'Surpass NSL Clubs'

With all Premier League teams now engaged in preseason training, all eyes are on last years champions APIA-Leichhardt and their approach to the new season.

Their new signings Christian Care, Paul Bilokapic, David Barrett, Brad Swancott and Robbie Stanton have all started work and according to our spies are coming along nicely with coach Les De Celis confident they will have another strong year.

"We had a few holes in our playing roster and the five signings I have made so far are covering a few holes," said De Celis.

"We have lost Marcus Stergiopoulos and Steve Karavatakis to the National League, Bob Catlin has gone to Canterbury and Sam Larocca is currently looking elsewhere.

"While we could never stop a player trying to further his career at the National League level, I was disappointed Bob Catlin decided to go because he added a lot to a strength to us. I had a lot of respect for him but I needed some reassurance that I had someone younger who could see out a season and I can understand why someone of Bob's experience didn't want to stay and fight for a spot.

"Larocca's loss is also troubling as I felt he was really beginning to blossom as a player and I think he is leaving the club for the wrong reason.

But as a team we are moving to a new level for professionalism and in a lot of ways we are now surpassing the National league clubs.

"In terms of competitiveness I feel we have a better squad than last year, but since all the clubs are improving with depth we will need to stay at the top of our game to succeed."

The Tigers first trial game for the year also took place on the weekend before last with a 3-1 loss to Parramatta Power at Potts Park.

On a warmish day, A.P.I.A. held their own with the coaching staff happy with the sides commitment despite having just two training runs in the leadup to the game.

De Celis has recently returned from a four-week stint with Italian Serie A club Empoli, and spoke to FTS about his experiences there. We will have those for you next week.

Blue Devils Sign Two

As mentioned in last weeks column, Belconnen have made their first two signings for the new season, agreeing to terms with attacking midfielder Alex Castro and David Milin. Both are former National League players and add a touch of class to the Blue Devils engine room.

"I am very happy to have signed with the Blue Devils and I am looking to put together a strong season and help them make the top five," said Castro from the national capital last week.

After being overlooked for a contract by new Wollongong coach John Turner, Castro returned to Canberra and signed on with Canberra Olympic for the winter season, who subsequently lost the ACT Grand Final 1-0.

Back in full training last week, he is looking forward to the year and the opportunity to impress and earn a recall to the National League. "At the moment the Premier League is the highest level of soccer we can play in Canberra," said Castro.

"I would have liked to stay in the NSL but at this stage the money just isn't there and since I have bought a house and got married recently, I have got to look after my future and life outside of football.

"I would still be keen to play NSL and really want to train hard and help Belconnen make the top five. If my career goes on from there then great but we'll just have to see how the restructure of the NSL goes and I'll take it from there."

Bankstown Revving Up for Premier League

Another club making headway in the recruitment stakes is Bankstown City. The Lions have appointed a new coaching team for season 2003/4 and have former Nepean Association boss Andy Papoulas as their head honcho.

His assistant will be John Caruana with former midfielder Saso Boskovski looking after the youth team.

The Lions preseason training is already in full swing with their new signings Marc Hoenselaars and Mathew Borg already impressing the coaching staff with their enthusiasm and commitment at this early stage.

In their first hitout for the year, the Lions traveled to Newcastle and knocked over Broadmeadow Magic 4-1

with two goals each to Borg and Alexander Asanovic.

"It was a solid performance from the team" said club spokesman John Caruana, "and a good opportunity for the team to get away and do a little bonding on the bus trip north. We have been training about three weeks now so it is still early days but already the side looks ahead of schedule and we are quietly confident we have the makings of a good team."

Adopting a quiet approach to their recruiting the Lions have new signing Sash Trajkovski from Marconi coming along well and are currently negotiating with a former Swiss first division defender who looks close to agreeing terms.

Apart from Glenn Moore and Damien Luksic all other first graders who finished last year have been retained.

White Eagles Sign Dragons

Bonnyrigg coach Ljube Jancev has also made his first move securing the services of a few handy players. Joining the White Eagles are Scott Wells and Steve Angelov from Fraser Park, Cem Akilli from MSC Liverpool and Shane Cevenini who was last seen with Schofields Scorpions.

Jancev has a few more holes to fill with midfielder David Harding linked to a move to Canterbury and Joe Bruni expected to stay with Sydney Crescent Star.

Moss Returns

Manly-Warringah Dolphins have appointed their coaching staff for next year confirming Phil Moss will return as head coach. Mark Gale has been promoted from the 21s to being Mossy's assistant while Dave Wilson will pick up the under-20's.

On the award front, Tom Corte has scooped the pool with the Players Player and Coaches Player Award for 2003 while Pascal Julliard was the Most Improved.

One player who has moved onto bigger and better things is Ashley Ryan who picked up a Northern Spirit youth team contract and has been in the squad for the Spirits first two games of the season against QAS and Newcastle United.

The Dolphins are also conducting trials for their Under-20's on October 28 and 30 with a 6.30pm start on both nights. Details from Dave Wilson on 0410 552 513.

Congratulations

Well done to the Sydney Crescent Star club for their promotion to the New South Wales Premier League. After a long season in the Winter Super League, the team will now back up in the state's top soccer competition.

It will be fascinating to see the Ozdenal-coached Super League champions match up against traditional Premier League clubs, in one of the most eagerly-awaited seasons in years.

FTS Says ...

Looking forward to seeing you all at the Winter Super League Silver Medal dinner this Friday night.

Ms Sandra Nori Presents ...



George Napier received an award for services to soccer in Dubbo



Peter McPhail receives an award on behalf of Kevin Wheatly



Mark Sinclair from Western Branch Soccer Association



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Soccer NSW State Awards Dinner

Carlton Hotel, Parramatta, October 4, 2003

Bill Cullinan Honoured with George Churchward Medal

Long-serving volunteer soccer administrator Bill Cullinan was awarded the George Churchward Medal for over 30 years of service to soccer in NSW at the 2003 Soccer NSW Council of Associations Dinner, held at the Carlton Hotel in Parramatta.

Golden soccer balls adorned the tables and golden

bows encircled the chairs as guests were treated to a fine evening by Soccer NSW. Many familiar faces from all around the state attended.

The annual dinner was attended by the Minister for Tourism, Sport and Recreation, Sandra Nori, who congratulated the newly unified Soccer NSW on another very successful season. She also presented

State Awards to volunteer administrators who have provided consistent and valuable service at any level - local Club, Association, Branch or State - over many years.

"Unfortunately, those who work tirelessly behind the scenes in sport, don't often get the recognition they deserve. Tonight is about trying to change that," she said.

Bill Cullinan started out his involvement in grass roots soccer with his sons at the junior Club of Spiritus Sanctus in the Gladesville Hornsby Football Association, where for a time he was Club President.

In the late 1970s, he took on a joint position as Sydney Branch & NSW Amateur Soccer Federation Competition Secretary, including the then Youth and Junior Leagues. Bill is currently the Council of Associations competition secretary, responsible for the Champion of Champions, State, Robertson and Amateur Cups, State Titles, and the attack Metropolitan League.

Fourteen other soccer identities were presented with awards in recognition of their work to develop and promote the game in New South Wales.



A surprised Bill Cullinan rises to receive the George Churchward Medal

2003 State Award Recipients

Jeffery Knudsen (Western Branch)
Donna Baker (Wagga Wagga Association)
Jeremy Barnes (Southern Tablelands)
Geoff & Annette Black (South West Slopes)
John Cunningham (Gladesville Hornsby Football Association)
Ben De Vos (Bankstown District Amateur Soccer Association)
Ron Garvin (Western Branch)
Stephen Hayes (Soccer Albury-Wodonga)
Joe Luciani (Granville Districts Soccer Football Association)
Roland Luke (Manly Warringah Soccer Association)
Richard (Dick) Kocass (Central Coast Soccer Association)
George Napier (Sutherland Shire Junior Soccer Football Association)
Kevin Wheatly (Cootamundra Junior Soccer Club)
Mark Sinclair (Western Branch)



The 2003 Soccer NSW Council of Associations Award Winners, pictured during last week's ceremony at Parramatta's Carlton Hotel



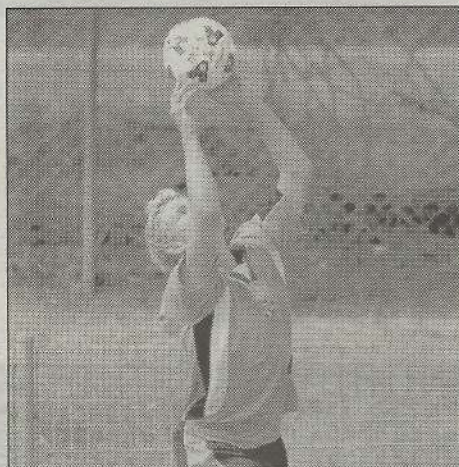
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Qantas National Talent Identification Championships

Valentine Sports Park — Saturday 27th September to Saturday 4th October 2003



Brent Farnsworth of NSW Country U15s

Valentine Sports Park saw some outstanding junior football over the last week, as the 2003 National Talent Identification Championships hit Sydney.

Teams in both grades played with skill, maturity and determination. The level of commitment was appreciated by the large local audiences who turned up at the Soccer NSW headquarters to see the games.

"We have been delighted to host these championships," said John Hedison, Special Projects Officer for Soccer NSW.

"The standard of the soccer has been high, the organisation excellent and I think most people of the people who came here really enjoyed the experience. I'd like to thank all those who got involved and helped to make it happen."

In the end, teams from Queensland stole the show, winning the championships at both Under-15 and

Under-16 level.

The Under-15's final was a close tussle. NSW Metropolitan, lead by tall defender and captain Will Thom, took on the Queensland State team that had defeated the tough Queensland Country selection in the semi-finals.

The match swung back and forth, and both sides battled away without scoring until the 70th minute, when Queensland's Brodie Ireland popped up to knock in the winner. The Queenslanders then survived some late NSW pressure to hang on for the victory.

NSW Metropolitan took some consolation from the fact that their striker Ben Vidaic, finished top scorer in the championship with seven goals.

In the Under-16 final, the Queensland State team deservedly defeated Victoria Metropolitan 2-0. The southerners had the best of the early chances, but Queensland hit the lead in the 16th minute when Chris Acaster steered home a cross.

Victoria had the lions' share of field position and possession for much of the rest of the match. But couldn't convert that into goals. Skillful Queensland attacker Tim Da Silva sealed the victory with a well-taken long range goal in the 68th minute.

The champions were bested served by Chris Grossman, Da Silva, midfielder Wade Davidson and keeper Ashley O'Neill. Victorian midfielders Evan Karavitis and Derrick Chisholm did well for the runners-up.

National Coach Frank Farina and National Youth Coach Ange Postecoglou presented the teams with their trophies at the end of the championships.



NSW Country Under 15 defender Daniel Quarisa



Soccer NSW's Brian Dene, Jim Selby and Branko Culina

SOCCER NSW TO REVIEW ACADEMIES

Coaching academies and soccer camps across the state may have to lift their game, according to new Soccer NSW Technical Director Branko Culina.

Culina and Brian Dene, Soccer NSW's Administrative Manager of Coaching and Development, are building a system that will measure the quality of coaching, safety and other issues at the dozens of camps and specialist academies in NSW.

"If they want to operate with our approval, they must meet the high standards of Soccer NSW," said Culina.

"There are a lot of academies coming out of the woodwork at the moment, and we don't know a lot about some of them."

"The aim of the program is to raise the bar in NSW in terms of the quality of coaching being offered at these camps."

Soccer NSW recently sent out a list of criteria to all Youth League Clubs, covering things such as insurance, safety, coaching qualifications and facilities.

"Some academies out there seem to be just about making a quick buck, and it gives soccer a bad image."

"Parents and would-be attendees have a right to know what they are getting, especially as they are paying good money for the training."

"Our message to players is, be careful, be selective and ask questions about what you are going to get for your money."

Culina has sent requests for information to dozens of soccer academies around the state.

Questions being asked of academies include:

- Does it have proper insurance?
- What qualifications do the coaches have?
- What facilities are available?
- What people or organisations are behind it?
- What equipment is available - is there enough for all the players?
- What medical resources are available?

Culina said that, when all the information has been collected, Soccer NSW will be able to give good advice to players and parents.

"We want the new system to work so that if a person sees the Soccer NSW logo on an ad for a soccer camp, they know we have studied it and it meets our standards."

"We encourage anyone who has doubts about what they are getting from an academy or soccer camp to contact Soccer NSW."



NSW Country Under 15 players Rohan Wilson, Daniel Mill, Jason Ryan, James Alcorn and Jade Hadfield form a defensive wall



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Qantas National Talent Identification Championships

Valentine Sports Park — Saturday 27th September to Saturday 4th October 2003



Under 16 Results

Qld 4 (M Butters 25m, own goal 56m, C Grossman 72m, G King 74m) **NSW Metro 1** (M Yarnold 36m) **SA 4** (G Catanzariti 13m/pen)/56m, D Thornton 71m, K Knauer 75m) **NNSW 0**
Country Qld 2 (J Downey 48m, T Hickey 54m) **Vic Metro 3** (A Rojas 7m, S O'Dor 35m, P Riccobene 60m)
WA 2 (J Thornley 64m, A Brand 76m) **NSW Country 0**
ACT 2 (J Rogers 6m, C Mehr 72m) **TAS 1** (F Comondari 4m/pen)
Vic Country 1 (L Galea 70m) **NT 0**
SA 0 NSW Country 0
QLD Country 1 (J Downey 43m) **ACT 1** (J Rogers 8m) **NT 0 NNSW 0**
TAS 0 NSW Metro 3 (B Djite 3m, C Sencion 23m, B Porter 65m/pen)
Vic Country 2 (J Hill 36m, M Peterson 45m) **WA 4** (R Aguirre 5m, J Thornley 15m, M Ashworth 57m, M Atak 70m)
Vic 3 (O Meijas 6m, N Bahsen 10m, D Chisholm 15m) **Qld 1** (M Butters 58m)
Qld 7 (M Scarff 16m/61m/74m, T De Silva 23m, G King 36m/65m, D Vidosic 62m) **TAS 2** (F Comondari 17m/70m)
NT 1 (own goal 63m) **SA 7** (K Andrews 30m, J Jackson 39m/44m, M Marrone 56m, Z Cerovina 58m/79m, D Thornton 62m)
Vic 0 ACT 0
NSW Country 2 (own goal 19m, J Hale 25m) **Vic Country 1** (L Galea 62m)
NSW Metro 3 (T Elrich 51m/52m, C Nunes 66m) **Qld Country 0**
NNSW 0 WA 2 (R Aguirre 4m, D Gurovski 72m) **WA 4** (R Aguirre 10m, 24m, 52m, 66m) **NT 0**
Qld Country 3 (M Collingwood 3m, R Ehlman 29m) **TAS 0**
SA 2 (D Thornton 34m, Z Cerovina 75m) **Vic Country 0**
ACT 1 (M Ibarra 57m) **Qld 5** (M Butters 22m/24m, R Stenhouse 34m, G King 49m, T De Silva 56m)
NNSW 0 NSW Country 2 (M Costello 18m, B Coates

78m)
NSW Metro 0 Vic 2 (O Meijas 49m, D Chisholm 79m)
ACT 0 NSW Metro 8 (B Djite 1m/25m/32m/33m, M Smith 3m, C Nunes 56m/66m, K Michael 70m)
NNSW 2 (T Hearfield 24m, own goal 46m) **Vic Country 0**
TAS 0 Vic 3 (S Sivic 4m, own goal 25m, P Riccobene 35m)
NSW Country 2 (A Small 31m, S Pye 48m) **NT 0**
Qld 1 (T De Silva 57m) **Qld Country 1** (J Evans 45m)
WA 1 (J Thornley 67m/pen) **SA 2** (K Knauer 15m, E Vlassis 55m)

Semi-Final 1

Vic Metro 3 (S Sivic 10m/74m, A Rojas) **WA 0**

Semi-Final 2

QLD 2 (M Suleau 60m, M Mundy 98m (Extra-Time))
SA 1 (D Thornton 77m)

Final

Victoria 0 Queensland 2 (C Acaster 16m, T De Silva 68m)

3rd Place Play-Off

Western Australia 2 (M Darby 38m, J Thornley 70m)
South Australia 0

5th place Play-off

NSW Metro 1 (T Elrich 52m) **NSW Country 0**

7th place Play-off

Qld Country 1 (T Hickey 4m) **Northern NSW 0**

9th Play-Off

ACT 3 (own goal 23m, A Menegazzo 30m, C Mehr 48m) **Vic Country 1** (J Hill 19m)

11th Play-Off

Tas 0 NT 0

Final

Victoria 0 Queensland 2 (C Acaster 16m, T De Silva 68m)

3rd Place Play-Off

Western Australia 2 (M Darby 38m, J Thornley 70m)
South Australia 0

Under 15 Results

Qld 0 ACT 0
NT 0 SA 5 (S Hughes 12m/33m/59m/60m, R Marveggio 67m)
Vic Country 1 (C Dunne 3m) **NSW Metro 4** (B Vidaic 12m/23m, B Maroney 19m, W Oostendorp 39m)
TAS 0 WA 1 (L Eoannidis 23m)
NNSW 0 Vic State 4 (M Park 9m, R Nasser 13m, L Antonopoulos 44m/53m)
Qld Country 1 (L Molea 44m) **NSW Country 0**
NT 0 WA 2 (L Eoannidis 48m/51m)
Qld 1 (G Batsinilas 5m) **NSW Metro 0**
SA 1 (S Hughes 51m) **NSW Country 2** (N Burns 17m/25m)
ACT 1 (J Watling 11m) **Vic 3** (M Dimech 9m/27m, M Park 52m)
TAS 0 Qld Country 1 (J Falco 68m)
Vic Country 0 NNSW 1 (M Pratten 64m)
NSW Metro 6 (T Buyukopru 11m, B Vidaic 20m/46m, D Klisic 22m/54m, A Albazi 65m) **NNSW 0**
WA 0 Qld Country 0
ACT 1 (J Reis 29m) **Vic Country 0**
SA 0 TAS 0
Qld State 2 (M Zeeno 15m, B Martin 32m) **Vic Metro**

2 (M Dimech 50m, L Broxham 64m)
NT 0 NSW Country 5 (R Wilson 21m/36m, T Gater 46m, N Burns 47m/54m)
TAS 0 NSW Country 2 (J Alcorn 17m, B Farnsworth 4m/pen)
Vic Country 0 Vic Metro 4 (D Piemonte 37m/63m, R Nasser 40m/pen), M Dimech 55m)
NT 1 (C Charlie 53m) **Qld Country 5** (R Veenhoven 2m/14m, J Molea 11m/29m, L Hathway 68m)
Qld State 2 (S Harriot 23m, M Zeeno 60m) **NNSW 0 SA 0 WA 0**
ACT 0 NSW Metro 4 (B Maroney 2m, D Klisic 13m, B Vidaic 50m/51m)
ACT 0 NNSW 1 (B Newham 61m)
SA 0 Qld Country 2 (R Veenhoven 63m, R Hughes 69m)
NSW Metro 1 (D Miller 54m) **Vic 0**
WA 1 (S Hartmann 20m) **NSW Country 0**
Qld 2 (S Harriot 54m, M Zeeno 59m) **Vic Country 1** (R Luka 41m)
NT 0 TAS 2 (H Fagg 6m, M Hill 23m)

Semi-Final 1

QLD 2 (M Zeeno 19m/pen), C Butler 79m(extra time)
Qld Country 1 (L Hathway 69m)

Semi-Final 2

NSW Metro 1 (B Vidaic 42m) **WA 0**

Final

NSW 0 Queensland 1 (B Ireland 70m)

3rd Place Play-Off

Western Australia 0 Queensland Country 1 (J Molea 61m)

Play-off for 5th

VIC 2 (M Park 55m, D Piemonte 66m) **NSW Country 2** (B Farnsworth 7m/pen), J Ryan 57m)

Play-Off for 7th

NNSW 0 SA 3 (S Gannon 9m, M Gregor 26m, S Hughes 28m)

Play-Off for 9th

ACT 1 (M Marcinko 13m) **TAS 0**

Play-Off for 11th

Vic Country 4 (C Dunne 6m, N Burris 18, 37m, Ramazan 25m) **NT 0**



NSW Country Under 15 star Nathan Burns

TOP SCORERS

Under 16

6 – Rodrigo Aguirre (WA)

5 – Bruce Djite (NSW)

4 – Michael Butters (QLD), Greg King (QLD), David Thornton (SA), John Thornley (WA), Tim De Silva (QLD)

3 – Foad Comondari (TAS), Michael Scarff (QLD), Zarko Cerovina (SA), Chris Nunes (NSW), Tarek Elrich (NSW), Semir Sivic (VIC)

2 – Jimmy Downey (CQLD), John Rogers (ACT), Orlando Meijas (VIC), Derrick Chisholm (VIC), Giuseppe Catanzariti (SA), Lyndon Galea (CVIC), James Jackson (SA), Phillip Riccobene (VIC), Kain Knauer (SA), Alex Rojas (VIC), Tim Hickey (CQLD), Jason Hill (CVIC), Cameron Mehr (ACT)

1 – Manuel Ibarra (ACT), Andrew Menegazzo (ACT), Adam Small (CNSW), Sean Pye (CNSW), Jordan Hale (CNSW), Matthew Costello (CNSW), Michael Yarnold (NSW), Christian Sencion (NSW), Bradley Porter (NSW), Matthew Smith (NSW), Karouna Michael (NSW), Matthew Condon (CQLD), R Ehlman (CQLD), Michael Collingwood (CQLD), Joshua Evans (CQLD), Chris Acaster (QLD), Dario Vidosic (QLD), Ryan Stenhouse (QLD), Chris Grossman (QLD), Matt Suleau (QLD), Matt Mundy (QLD), Kraig Andrews (SA), Michael Marrone (SA), Elias Vlassis (SA), Troy Hearfield (NNSW), Blake Coates (CNSW), Steven O'Dor (VIC), Noel Bahsen (VIC), Michael Peterson (CVIC), Martyn Ashworth (WA), Mustafa Atak (WA), Andrew Brand (WA), Dejan Gurovski (WA), Mark Darby (WA)

Under 15

7 – Ben Vidaic (NSW)

6 – Scott Hughes (SA)

4 – Matthew Dimech (VIC), Nathan Burns (CNSW), Morgan Zeeno (QLD), Judd Molea (CQLD)

3 – Dusan Klisic (NSW), Luke Eoannidis (WA), Reece Veenhoven (CQLD), Dean Pietmonte (VIC)

2 – Brendan Maroney (NSW), Ramsey Nasser (VIC), Luke Antonopoulos (VIC), Rohan Wilson (CNSW), Stephen Harriott (QLD), Brent Farnsworth (CNSW), Cameron Dunne (CVIC), Luke Hathway (CQLD), Matt Park (VIC), Nick Burris (CVIC)

1 – Josh Watling (ACT), Mario Marcinko (ACT), Jordan Reis (ACT), Matthew Pratten (NNSW), Blair Newham (NNSW), Wade Oostendorp (NSW), Andrew Albazi (NSW), Daniel Miller (NSW), Tayfun Buyukopru (NSW), Ben Martin (QLD), Georgio Batsinilas (QLD), Chris Butler (QLD), Brodie Ireland (QLD), Reardo Luka (CVIC), Ramazan Savran (CVIC), Leigh Broxham (VIC), Curtis Charlie (NT), Ryan Marveggio (SA), Scott Gannon (SA), Matthew Gregor (SA), Henry Fagg (TAS), Matthew Hill (TAS), Joshua Falco (CQLD), Robert Hughes (CQLD), Tim Gater (CNSW), James Alcorn (CNSW), Jason Ryan (CNSW), Stuart Hartmann (WA)

Under 16 Final Standings

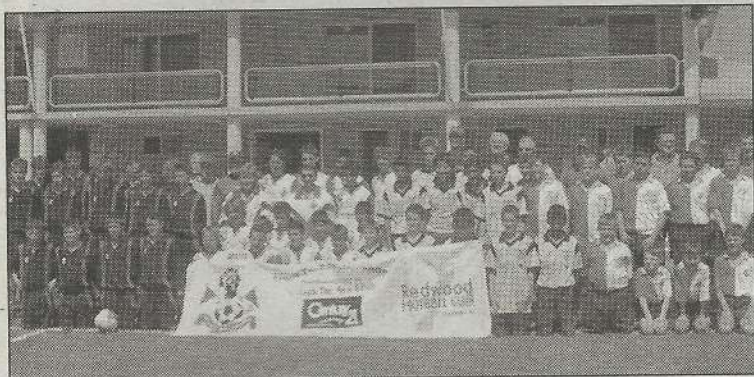
1	Queensland
2	Victoria Metro (Fair Play Award)
3	Western Australia
4	South Australia
5	NSW Metro
6	NSW Country
7	Queensland Country
8	Northern NSW
9	ACT
10	Victoria Country
11	Northern Territory
11	Tasmania

Under 15 Final Standings

1	Queensland
2	NSW Metropolitan
3	Western Australia
4	Queensland Country
5	Victoria
5	NSW Country
7	South Australia
8	Northern NSW
9	ACT
10	Tas
11	Vic Country
12	Northern Territory (Fair Play Award)



Trans Tasman Cup



Teams gather at Christie Park before the competition

On Monday and Tuesday this week West Pennant Hills-Cherrybrook Lions hosted the 2003 Trans Tasman Challenge at Christie Park featuring the New Zealand nominated Redwood 14s and teams from Epping Eastwood Tigers and North Ryde's Macquarie Sports.

After Mondays preliminary games the

Lions and Redwood faced off in a thrilling final which had the Cup as the prize. It was a very even first half but then with the Lions continually probing the Redwood defence, forward Tom Macerola broke away and was rewarded with the first goal.

The second half saw the Lions come out strongly and their withering attack

had Redwood on the backfoot. The pressure began to tell and Redwood gave away a penalty for a handball in the box which Macerola again cleanly put away for a 2-0 lead.

At this point the hot and dry conditions and the toll of the past 4 days travelling began to tell on the visitors and 3 more goals from Niklas Danielsson, James

Gibb and Davis Smith put the result beyond question, the Lions wrapping up the Cup defence 5-0.

On Wednesday the Lions host Redwood to some well deserved R&R with a day at Wonderland before a presentations dinner at the West Pennant Hills Sports Club on Thursday evening and return to New Zealand on Friday, this



West Pennant Hills-Cherrybrook take on New Zealand's Redwood in the final of the Trans Tasman Challenge

time empty handed.

In 2004 the Lions will send away an under 15 side to again contest the Cup in Blenheim New Zealand. The tournament was sponsored by the WPH Sports Club and Century 21 Joseph Tan Real Estate, West Pennant Hills.

STATE TITLES

The New South Wales State Titles kick off at venues all around the state this week.

Players have been selected via trials over the past two months to represent their zone in the various age categories.

The zones are: Riverina Branch, Western Branch, Southern Branch, Metropolitan North, Metro South, Metro East and Metro West.

All matches will take place from today (Tuesday) until this Friday (10th October). See www.soccernsw.com.au for all times and match details.

The boys Under-11 competition is being held at Harrison Park, in Parkes, in the Western Branch region.

The Under-12s boys will play at Berrambool Sporting Complex in Merimbula.

The boys Under-13s take place at Savoy Park, Myrtleford, and the Under-14s are at Plum Park on the Central Coast.

The girls Under-12s, Under-14s and Under 16s are being hosted at South Nowra.

The Under-15 and Under-17 boys are competing at Gus Smith Oval in Young.

Champion of Champions Round 4 Fixture List

The 30 semi-finals of the 15 divisions of the Champion of Champions that will be held on Sunday the 12th of October, 2003 to be played at neutral venues, will have representatives from 18 different Associations including 2 from NNSW (Soccer Far North Coast and Holiday Coast), Dubbo and Shoalhaven.

The Nepean Association is represented in 9 divisions, Manly-Warringah in 8, followed by Sutherland with 6,

Southern Districts and Illawarra with 5, St George in 4 and Gladesville, Soccer Far North Coast, Canterbury, Macarthur all with 3, Ku-Ring-Gai, Blacktown, Holiday Coast two teams and Shoalhaven, Granville, Dubbo, Sydney Amateur League and North West Women's Soccer Association also represented.

The winning teams will play in the Grand Finals at Valentine Sports Park on Sunday 26th October, 2003.

Date	Team	Team	Age	Venue	Time
12/10/2003	Southern Districts	Granville	10	Kareela Oval. 4	10:00
12/10/2003	Illawarra	St. George	10	Kareela Oval. 4	14:15
12/10/2003	Manly Warringah	Far North Coast	11	Gosling Park	10:00
12/10/2003	Illawarra	Nepean	11	Kareela Oval. 4	11:15
12/10/2003	Southern Districts	Canterbury	12	Kareela Oval. 4	12:45
12/10/2003	Ku-Ring-Gai	Dubbo	12	Colyton Park. 2	10:00
12/10/2003	Southern Districts	Far North Coast	13	Francis Park	10:00
12/10/2003	Gladesville Hornsby	St. George	13	Harrie Denning Centre	09:30
12/10/2003	Southern Districts	Canterbury	14	Harrie Denning Centre	11:00
12/10/2003	Gladesville Hornsby	Nepean	14	Harrie Denning Centre	14:30
12/10/2003	Blacktown	Holiday Coast	15	Gosling Park	11:30
12/10/2003	Illawarra	St. George	15	Jannali Oval 1	13:00
12/10/2003	Manly Warringah	T.B.A.	16	Colyton Park. 2	11:30
12/10/2003	Illawarra	Nepean	16	Jannali Oval 1	14:30
12/10/2003	Blacktown	Canterbury	17	Harrie Denning Centre	12:30
12/10/2003	Macarthur	Nepean	17	Stanwell Park 2168	10:00
12/10/2003	Manly Warringah	Sutherland	18	Colyton Park. 1	10:00
12/10/2003	Macarthur	Nepean	18	Stanwell Park 2168	12:00
12/10/2003	Southern Districts	Sutherland	21	Colyton Park. 1	12:00
12/10/2003	Macarthur	Nepean	21	Stanwell Park 2168	14:00
12/10/2003	Manly Warringah	Sutherland	AA	Colyton Park. 1	14:00
12/10/2003	Gladesville Hornsby	Nepean	AA	Francis Park	15:00
12/10/2003	Manly Warringah	Sutherland	035	Colyton Park. 2	15:00
12/10/2003	Ku-Ring-Gai	Sydney Amateur Lge	035	Francis Park	13:00
12/10/2003	Manly Warringah	Far North Coast	14W	Francis Park	11:30
12/10/2003	Shoalhaven	Nepean	14W	Jannali Oval 1	10:00
12/10/2003	Manly Warringah	Sutherland	16W	Gosling Park	15:00
12/10/2003	Illawarra	Nepean	16W	Jannali Oval 1	11:30
12/10/2003	Manly Warringah	Holiday Coast	AAW	Gosling Park	13:00
12/10/2003	Nth West Women	St. George	AAW	Colyton Park. 2	13:00



Players take a break between matches, resting in the warm conditions at the Gladesville-Hornsby Association ground



Redwood perform a Haka prior to the final



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ITALIAN SERIE A

ITALIAN AFFAIR

By Joe Russo

Rivaldo has done the biggest back flip in recent memory with his extraordinary decision to remain with AC Milan. After saying goodbye to the fans at the San Siro Stadium prior to the match with Lecce, he then decided that he couldn't leave the place.

It is no secret that Rivaldo requested a transfer because he felt that he was not getting sufficient game time under coach Carlo Ancelotti.

AC Milan granted him his wish to rescind his contract after only 14 months at the club even though he still had two years left.

It is not normally club policy according to AC Milan General Manager, Adriano Galliani, to allow players to rescind their contracts but the club made an exception in this circumstance.

Rivaldo was linked with big spending Chelsea when the bombshell came that he had reversed his decision. Apparently he realised that he couldn't be signed by another club until the January transfer window re-opens and that would have meant sitting on the sidelines. It could have also jeopardised his place in the Brazilian national team.

At the heart of Rivaldo's gripe was lack of playing time under Ancelotti, but making this pantomime even worse was the fact that he was to be selected against Lecce, the very game where he waved goodbye to the San Siro faithful.

Ancelotti, like a lot of Serie A coaches, has to rotate his stellar squad. This is nothing new at AC Milan as it has been happening for over a decade. Rivaldo, like everyone else, has to earn his place in the team and he knew this before he signed with the club.

Exacerbating Rivaldo's hurt could have been the fact that a younger Brazilian named Kaka has been in outstanding form for the 'rossoneri' in a position that Rivaldo could occupy.

Rivaldo said in the Italian media that he was extremely hurt at been left on the bench for the Champions League final last May in Manchester against Juventus.

To make matters even worse, according to Rivaldo, was the fact that he was left on the bench for the opening Serie A round against Ancona.

AC Milan fans have certainly not seen the best of Rivaldo and now that he done this amazing U-turn, one can only hope that he can recapture some of the form that only a few years ago ensured he was definitely the best player in the world.

♦♦♦♦

Apparently Christian Vieri fields a phone call every day from his old mate Ronaldo to convince him to join Real Madrid according to a certain local television station in Milan.

It was also suggested that Vieri and Ronaldo could swap clubs with the Brazilian returning to Inter but Vieri categorically denied this.

Vieri is certainly no stranger to Madrid having played there for Atletico Madrid during the 1997/98 season. In 24 appearances he scored 24 goals for the club.

He went to Atletico after a year at Juventus then returned to Italy with Lazio. After a year in the capital Rome he joined Inter where he is now into his fifth season with the club but his contract with Inter finishes at the end of this season.

Vieri has also decided to impose a three-month media ban on himself because he must figure that he has something interesting to say and that everyone will be chasing a grab from him.

Nothing has changed because on his brief Australian sojourn last Christmas he also refused to give interviews, including ABSW and the local Italian papers in the ban.

Most likely the journalists that cover cricket, tennis and the Sydney to Hobart yacht race, the events that dominate coverage in the mainstream Australian media over the summer, didn't even realise he was in town.

Vieri said recently that his comments are always misrepresented by the media and hence the reason for the ban. Like so many sports stars before him, it is blame the media.

Anyway Vieri has other things to concentrate on which are far more important. Besides his well-known business adventures, including a nice Sydney restaurant, Inter has just released a CD called 'Mad Inter' where Vieri and his teammates sing along.

♦♦♦♦

Meanwhile Sydney listeners can tune into 98.5 FM on Sunday nights at 10.00pm for all the latest soccer news.

INTER1
AC MILAN3

AC Milan joined Juventus at the top of the table on 13 points with a convincing win over their city rivals. They took the lead in the 39th minute when striker Filippo Inzaghi headed Andrea Pirlo's free kick past Inter goalkeeper Francesco Toldo.

Brazilian playmaker Kaka and striker Andrei Shevchenko completed the victory in the second half, leaving Inter to take cold comfort from Obafemi Martin's late strike.

ANCONA0
UDINESE3

The huge task facing Ancona's new coach Nedo Sonetti was soon apparent as a dreadful back pass allowed Udinese forward Dino Fava Passaro to put the visitors ahead in the 11th minute.

Another goal by Passaro just after the break followed strike partner Vincenzo Iaquina's goal on the half-hour mark to complete Udinese's easy win and left the promoted side stuck at the bottom, having lost four of their first five games.

EMPOLI0
MODENA3

Empoli failed to make use of their one-man advantage after the 16th-minute dismissal of Modena goalkeeper Marco Ballotta.

They paid the price in the second half when Modena midfielder Omar Milanetto set up defenders Roberto Cevoli and Luca Ungari to score before adding a third himself from the penalty spot in the 75th minute as Empoli's discipline disintegrated.

JUVENTUS2
BOLOGNA1

Juventus produced a typically robust performance to take all three points despite a generally below-par display.

First half goals by Juve defender Mark Iuliano and Bologna striker Giuseppe Signori cancelled each other out, but 10 minutes from time winger Gianluca Zambrotta tumbled in the visitors' area to earn the champions a penalty, which striker David Trezeguet converted to maintain Juve's position at the top of Serie A.



AC Milan's Ricardo Kaka is mobbed by teammates after scoring during AC's 3-1 win against city rivals Inter.

LAZIO1
CHIEVO VERONA0

Lazio coach Roberto Mancini finally got the better of his opposite number on Chievo's bench, Luigi Del Neri, whom he had never beaten in four previous top-flight clashes in charge of Fiorentina and Lazio. It was a close contest, though, as Lazio needed a 64th-minute deflected free kick by Sinisa Mihajlovic to secure a win that keeps them among the title contenders.

LECCE1
BRESCIA4

Former European Player of the Year Roberto Baggio added the finishing touch to Brescia's first win of the season, scoring his side's fourth goal four minutes from time. The real hero of the day, however, was 22-year-old Andrea Caracciolo. His hat-trick punished sloppy defending by promoted Lecce, who have leaked 14 goals in their five games so far this season.

PARMA1
SAMPDORIA0

Parma's 21-year-old Brazilian striker Adriano continued his impressive run of form, nodding a 19th-minute cross by midfielder Marco Marchionni past visiting goalkeeper Francesco Antonioli to claim his sixth goal of the season. At the other end, Sebastian Frey pulled off a series of spectacular saves to deny Sampdoria and keep Parma near the top of Serie A.

PERUGIA0
REGGINA0

Both sides needed a win to drag themselves away from the wrong end of the table. Reggina



Parma's Brazilian striker Adriano heads past Sampdoria goalkeeper Francesco Antonioli to score the winning goal.

trolled the early stages but tightened up in the second half, almost going behind in the 47th minute when a free kick by Perugia defender Ze Maria shaved the post. Reggina striker David Di Michele and Perugia defender Souleymane Diamoutene were red-carded in an untidy finale.

SIENA0
AS ROMA0

Roma's free-scoring run was brought to an abrupt halt by determined defending from promoted Siena, who hung on for a point in a scrappy goalless draw. The visitors came closest to taking the lead in the 45th minute, when Italy striker Marco Delvecchio headed powerfully towards goal, but an instinctive save by Generoso Rossi preserved the deadlock.

FIXTURES

Sunday 19th October

Ancona	vs	Juventus
Bologna	vs	Perugia
Brescia	vs	Inter
Chievo	vs	Sampdoria
Milan	vs	Lazio
Modena	vs	Lecce
Reggina	vs	Siena
Roma	vs	Parma
Udinese	vs	Empoli

SERIE A

Ancona 0 Udinese 3, Empoli 0 Modena 3, Inter Milan 1 AC Milan 3, Juventus 2 Bologna 1, Lazio 1 Chievo 0, Lecce 1 Brescia 4, Parma 1 Sampdoria 0, Perugia 0 Reggina 0, Siena 0 AS Roma 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Juventus	5	4	1	0	13	5	13
2 Milan	5	4	1	0	11	3	13
3 Roma	5	3	2	0	12	3	11
4 Parma	5	3	2	0	10	5	11
5 Lazio	5	3	1	1	11	7	10
6 Inter	5	2	2	1	4	3	8
7 Chievo	5	2	1	2	8	6	7
8 Modena	5	2	1	2	6	4	7
9 Udinese	5	2	1	2	5	4	7
10 Siena	5	1	3	1	7	4	6
11 Sampdoria	5	1	2	2	5	6	5
12 Brescia	5	1	2	2	10	13	5
13 Reggina	5	0	4	1	7	9	4
14 Bologna	5	1	1	3	6	8	4
15 Perugia	5	0	3	2	4	10	3
16 Lecce	5	1	0	4	6	14	3
17 Empoli	5	0	2	3	4	15	2
18 Ancona	5	0	1	4	2	12	1



ENGLISH



Argentinian hitman Hernan Crespo came off the bench to grab a late winner as Chelsea kept their Premiership challenge firmly on track with a 2-1 win over Middlesbrough.

The home side looked to have done enough to secure at least a point after Slovakia striker Szilard Nemeth had scored seconds after the restart to cancel out Eidur Gudjohnsen's first half strike for the visitors.

But Middlesbrough found themselves undone by the brilliance of man-of-the-match Damien Duff in the closing minutes.

The Irish winger, who had earlier provided the pass for Gudjohnsen's 17th minute opener, twisted and turned his way into space near the right touchline and sent over a superbly judged cross to the back post which Crespo met with a textbook downward header past Mark Schwarzer.

Liverpool's Premiership title ambitions were dealt a



Seth Johnson of Leeds scores during the FA Barclaycard Premiership match between Leeds United and Blackburn Rovers at Elland Road.

potentially fatal blow as Arsenal came from behind to secure a 2-1 victory at Anfield.

The three points kept the Gunners a point clear of Manchester United at the top of the table and leaves Liverpool nine points adrift of the leaders.

A stunning 25-yard strike from Robert Pires secured Arsenal's win after a Sami Hyypia own goal had cancelled out Harry Kewell's opener for Liverpool.

Manchester United remained a point behind Arsenal after ending Birmingham's unbeaten start to the season with a 3-0 victory at Old Trafford.

Birmingham had held out for over half an hour but saw their chances of avoiding defeat destroyed when goalkeeper Maik Taylor was sent off for pulling down Paul Scholes in the box.

Ruud van Nistelrooy smashed home the resulting penalty for his eighth league

goal of the season. Scholes added a second with a trademark strike from the edge of the area 12 minutes after the break and Ryan Giggs rounded things off eight minutes from time.

At the other end of the table, Wolves claimed their first win of the season by beating Manchester City 1-0 and Leeds eased the pressure on under-fire manager Peter Reid with a 2-1 win over Blackburn.

Scottish midfielder Colin Cameron was Wolves' hero, his 75th minute header enough to secure the Midlands club's first win in the top flight of English football since May 1984.

Midfielder Seth Johnson scored both Leeds goals, sweeping home the rebound after Brad Friedel failed to hold a Mark Viduka shot after 11 minutes and then firing in a left foot volley 16 minutes later.

Dino Baggio headed Blackburn back into contention four minutes from time but Leeds held out for three points which lifted them out of the relegation zone.

Leicester found themselves back in the drop zone after a 2-0 defeat at Fulham with Portuguese striker Luis

Boa Morte scoring in either half. Alan Shearer's 250th league goal of his career was enough to give Newcastle their first win of the season at the expense of Southampton.

Newcastle remain in the relegation zone however as Tottenham continued their upturn under caretaker manager David Pleat with an impressive 3-0 win over Everton at White Hart Lane.

Frederic Kanoute's stunning 30-yard volley set Spurs on their way and Everton were killed off by goals from Gus Poyet and Robbie Keane in the space of four minutes after the break.

Portsmouth slumped to a third straight defeat as Charlton came from behind to secure a 2-1 win at Fratton Park.

Teddy Sheringham had put the home side ahead in the 34th minute but his effort was cancelled out by Jon Fortune before South African striker Shaun Bartlett grabbed all three points with a bullet header in the final minute.

Juan Pablo Angel scored a stunning equaliser then had a late penalty saved by Jussi Jaaskelainen as Aston Villa blew their chance of taking all three points in a 1-1 draw against Bolton.



Paul Scholes of Manchester celebrates with Phil Neville after scoring the second goal against Blackburn last week.

PREMIER LEAGUE

Fulham 2 Leicester City 0; Leeds Utd 2 Blackburn 1, Liverpool 1 Arsenal 2, Manchester Utd 3 Birmingham City 0, Newcastle Utd 1 Southampton 0, Portsmouth 1 Charlton 2, Tottenham 3 Everton 0, Wolverhampton 1 Manchester City 0, Aston Villa 1 Bolton 1, Middlesbrough 1 Chelsea 2.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Arsenal	8	6	2	0	16	6	20
Man Utd	8	6	1	1	16	3	19
Chelsea	7	6	1	0	18	7	19
Fulham	7	4	2	1	15	9	14
Birmingham	7	4	2	1	8	5	14
Man City	8	3	3	2	14	9	12
Southampton	8	3	3	2	8	5	12
Liverpool	8	3	2	3	12	9	11
Charlton	8	3	2	3	12	12	11
Portsmouth	8	2	3	3	10	9	9
Blackburn	8	2	2	4	15	16	8
Everton	8	2	2	4	12	14	8
Aston Villa	8	2	2	4	8	12	8
Tottenham	8	2	2	4	8	12	8
Bolton	8	1	5	2	6	12	8
Leeds	8	2	2	4	8	17	8
Middlesbrough	8	2	1	5	7	14	7
Newcastle	7	1	3	3	8	10	6
Leicester	8	1	2	5	10	15	5
Wolverhampton	8	1	2	5	3	18	5

FIRST DIVISION

Burnley 3 Walsall 1, Crewe 0 Watford 1, Crystal Palace 2 Cardiff 1, Derby 0 West Ham 1, Gillingham 0 West Bromwich 2, Ipswich 2 Rotherham 1, Millwall 2 Coventry 1, Preston 1 Wimbledon 0, Reading 2 Bradford 2, Sheffield Utd 0 Sunderland 1, Stoke 2 Notts Forest 1, Wigan 1 Norwich 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
West Brom	11	8	1	2	19	10	25
Sheff Utd	11	7	2	2	20	11	23
West Ham	11	7	2	2	14	6	23
Sunderland	11	7	1	3	18	10	22
Wigan	11	6	4	1	15	7	22
Norwich	11	6	3	2	17	12	21
Millwall	12	5	4	3	17	14	19
Burnley	12	5	2	5	19	19	17
Notts Forest	11	5	1	5	17	14	16
Preston	11	5	1	5	15	13	16
Cardiff	11	4	3	4	20	14	15
Reading	11	4	3	4	16	13	15
Stoke	12	4	3	5	15	16	15
Ipswich	11	4	2	5	16	17	14
Crystal Palace	11	4	2	5	15	17	14
Crewe	11	4	1	6	9	15	13
Gillingham	12	3	4	5	12	20	13
Coventry	10	3	3	4	15	16	12
Walsall	11	3	3	5	13	14	12
Derby	11	3	3	5	11	17	12
Bradford	11	3	2	6	11	19	11
Rotherham	11	2	3	6	7	19	9
Watford	10	2	2	6	10	14	8
Wimbledon	11	1	1	9	13	27	4

SECOND DIVISION

Bournemouth 2 Hartlepool Utd 2, Barnsley 2 Rushden & Diamonds 0, Brentford 0 Sheff. Wed 3, Brighton & Hove Albion 3 Blackpool 0, Bristol City 2 Swindon Town 1, Grimsby Town 0 QPR 1, Notts County 3 Colchester Utd 0, Peterborough Utd 2 Oldham Athletic 2, Stockport County 0 Chesterfield 0, Wrexham 2 Port Vale 1, Wycombe 0 Plymouth 0 (Luton Town vs Tranmere - Tuesday AET)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Brighton	12	7	3	2	21	10	24
QPR	12	6	5	1	24	9	23
Port Vale	12	7	2	3	20	15	23
Sheff Wed	12	6	3	3	19	14	21
Hartlepool	12	5	5	2	24	13	20
Bristol City	12	5	5	2	16	8	20
Swindon	12	5	5	2	22	15	20
Barnsley	12	5	4	3	14	14	19
Plymouth	12	4	6	2	21	16	18
Colchester	12	5	3	4	15	16	18
Oldham	12	4	5	3	23	18	17
Bournemouth	12	4	5	3	14	13	17
Wrexham	11	5	2	4	11	12	17
Luton	11	4	3	4	16	17	15
Grimsby	12	4	3	5	16	19	15
Rushden & D'monds	12	4	2	6	19	22	14
Blackpool	11	4	2	5	14	21	14
Brentford	12	4	2	6	10	19	14
Tranmere	11	2	5	4	12	14	11
Peterborough	12	2	4	6	14	19	10
Notts County	12	2	3	7	11	22	9
Stockport	12	1	5	6	13	21	

English Premier League



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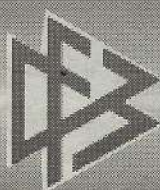
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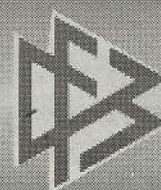
FIXTURES

Saturday 18th October

Arsenal	v	Chelsea
Birmingham	v	Aston Villa
Blackburn	v	Charlton
Everton	v	Southampton
Fulham	v	Wolverhampton
Leeds	v	Man Utd
Leicester	v	Tottenham
Man City	v	Bolton
Middlesbrough	v	Newcastle
Portsmouth	v	Liverpool



German Bundesliga



Vfb Stuttgart keeper Timo Hildebrand broke Oliver Kahn's mark of 802 minutes without conceding a goal to create a new German league record.

Stuttgart drew 0-0 with Cologne, enough for the 24-year-old to create a new mark of 825 minutes without letting a goal in, during an otherwise uneventful match.

Werder Bremen ousted Stuttgart from top spot in the Bundesliga with a 5-3 win against VfL Wolfsburg.

Bayer Leverkusen also jumped over Stuttgart into second spot with a 3-0 victory over Hansa Rostock, leaving champions Bayern Munich in fourth position.

Bremen, whose Brazilian star Ailton scored twice, were only ahead by the slimmest of margins however.

Bremen and Leverkusen both had 19 points from eight matches and were equal on a goal difference of plus 12 but the club from the northern port took the lead on 21 goals scored as against Leverkusen's 18.

Bayern Munich moved to within a point of



Michael Hartmann (Left) of Berlin battles against Owen Hargreaves of Munich during the Bundesliga match between FC Bayern Munich and Hertha Berlin SC at The Olympic Stadium.

Stuttgart following a resounding 4-1 victory over Hertha Berlin with Michael Ballack and Roy Makaay both scoring.

Borussia Dortmund had their first away success since last December in winning 1-0 at Eintracht Frankfurt.

Giuseppe Reina found the net in the 10th minute and Matthias Sammer's side are now lurking behind the leading pack.

Bayern had no problems hitting the back of the net, slamming four past Hertha.

Makaay got the ball rolling in the 22nd minute from near the penalty spot.

Ballack hit the second in first half injury time when Hungarian keeper Gabor Kiraly could only parry his initial header and Bayern's number 13 made sure with his second attempt.

Bastian Schweinsteiger hit their third in the 58th minute though Niko Kovac pulled a goal back for Hertha midway through the half.

Then, with two minutes to go, Martin Demichelis sent Salihamidzic clear on the right wing and the Bosnian darted into the penalty area and left Kiraly no chance with a right-foot shot from 10 yards for Bayern's fourth.

Kaiserslautern, coached by former Belgian international Eric Gerets, had a resounding 4-0 victory over sixth-placed VfL Bochum, who were playing with 10 men after Bulgarian international striker Marian Hristov was sent off in the 30th minute.

FC Schalke ran out 2-1 winners at Hannover 96, who took the lead through Thomas Christiansen in the 16th minute. However, goals from Gerald Asamoah and Darío Rodríguez turned the match in the away side's favour before half-time and Hannover ended the match with nine players, with

Julian De Guzman and Thomas Brdaric both being dismissed in the second half.

Zlatan Bajramovic's goal 13 minutes from time gave SC Freiburg a 1-0 win against TSV 1860 Munich, while Sergej Barbarez scored twice as Hamburger recovered from a goal down to defeat Borussia Mönchengladbach 2-1.

Hanover 1 Schalke 2, Eintracht Frankfurt 0 Borussia Dortmund 1, Freiburg 1 1860 Munich 0, VfB Stuttgart 0 Cologne 0, Bayern Munich 4 Hertha Berlin 1, Hamburg 2 Borussia M'gladbach 1, Bochum 4 Kaiserslautern 0, Bayer Leverkusen 3-Hansa Rostock 0, Werder Bremen 5 VfL Wolfsburg 3.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Bremen	8	6	1	1	21	9	19
2 Leverkusen	8	6	1	1	18	6	19
3 Stuttgart	8	5	3	0	9	0	18
4 Bayern	8	5	2	1	21	12	17
5 Dortmund	8	5	1	2	13	6	16
6 Bochum	8	3	3	2	14	10	12
7 Freiburg	8	3	3	2	12	11	12
8 Wolfsburg	8	4	0	4	17	18	12
9 Hannover	8	3	2	3	15	15	11
10 Schalke	8	2	4	2	10	12	10
11 1860 München	8	3	1	4	7	11	10
12 Hamburg	8	2	2	4	7	15	8
13 Kaiserslautern	8	3	1	4	8	12	7
14 Hansa	8	1	2	5	10	16	5
15 Hertha	8	0	5	3	6	12	5
16 Eintracht	8	1	2	5	6	13	5
17 M'gladbach	8	1	2	5	6	14	5
18 Köln	8	1	1	6	7	14	4

FIXTURES

October 18th 2003

Wolfsburg	v	Hansa Rostock
Kaiserslautern	v	Hamburg SV
M'gladbach	v	B.Munich
Hertha Berlin	v	B.Leverkusen
Werder Bremen	v	VfB Stuttgart
FC Cologne	v	Freiburg
1860 Munich	v	E.Frankfurt
B.Dortmund	v	Hannover
Schalke	v	Bochum



Spanish Primera Liga



Valencia regained their place at the top of the Spanish first division by winning 1-0 at slumping Barcelona.

Valencia's goal came after just 13 minutes from a stunning left-foot, half-volley by Ricardo Oliveira, who was signed from Santos during the summer and who has quickly become a hit after also scoring against Real Madrid a week ago.

Oliveira has started to be talked about in the same breath as his illustrious compatriot Ronaldo, who continued to show exactly why he is one of the world's top strikers by getting both of Real Madrid's goals in a 2-1 win over Espanyol.

Uruguayan striker Walter Pandiani scored in his eighth consecutive game to help Deportivo La Coruna to a thumping 5-1 win over Atletico Madrid.

Pandiani now has six goals to his name in the league, after scoring in every game of this campaign so far, and has also found the net in Deportivo's last two Champions League outings.

Fran Gonzalez put Deportivo ahead after just five minutes, the Galicians' club captain finishing off some good work by Victor Sanchez.



Matias Lequi of Athletic celebrates during the Spanish Primera Liga match between Deportivo de la Coruna and Atletico de Madrid at the Riazor Stadium.

Atletico's Argentine defender Matias Lequi levelled the scores six minutes later but Deportivo regained the lead in the 35th minute thanks to an own goal from Atletico defender Carlos Aguilera.

Deportivo sealed the game within 11 minutes of the second half as Sergio Gonzalez let rip from 25 metres with a thunderbolt and then six minutes later, Pandiani got his memorable goal, taking advantage of a dispirited Atletico defence.

Next week at Barcelona, Pandiani will try to equal the Deportivo club record of scoring in seven consecutive league games, achieved by the Brazilian striker Bebeto in the 1992-93 season.

Deportivo added to Atletico's embarrassment with a fifth goal two minutes into injury time from winger Lionel Scaloni.

Struggling Real Zaragoza leapfrogged over Atletico

thanks to their 1-1 draw at Villarreal.

Villarreal started promisingly with Victor Fernandez scoring direct from a free kick after just five minutes but newly-promoted Zaragoza equalised through David Villa midway through the first half.

Real Betis salvaged a deserved point with a 1-1 draw against Athletic Bilbao after their Brazilian winger Assuncao scored with less than a minute of normal time left.

Athletic striker Tiko Martinez Opened the scoring with his third goal of the season.

Real Madrid made hard work of defeating Espanyol, with the reigning Spanish champions having to settle for a 2-1 win thanks to two goals from Brazilian striker Ronaldo.

It took Real 51 minutes to break down the visitors, Ronaldo finally sending home a right foot shot after service from Raul Gonzalez.

It took a further 30 minutes for the hosts to seal victory as David Beckham moved out to the right wing to provide one of his now-familiar long range pinpoint passes which found the head of Ronaldo.

Real were made to pay for easing up as Alex Fernandez produced a sparkling individual effort to get a consolation goal for the visitors just as the whistle was about to go.

Unfashionable Osasuna continued their impressive start to the season with a useful 1-1 draw away at Real Mallorca.

Mallorca took the lead, against the run of play, when 37-year-old defender Miguel Angel Nadal headed home a Nene corner seven minutes from the whistle.

However, the visitors from Pamplona took just 49 seconds to equalise, with Pierre Webó securing a draw almost immediately from the restart.

Murcia got their first win since their return to the top flight after a 14-year absence, a 1-0 victory over fellow strugglers Albacete, thanks to a stunning sixth minute goal from summer signing Michel Sanchez.

Michel unleashed a thunderbolt free kick from just outside the area which gave Albacete's former

Argentine international goalkeeper Carlos Roa little chance.

Celta Vigo's miserable domestic season continued with a 2-1 loss at Malaga.

Fernando Sanz put Malaga ahead after 13 minutes and although Savo Milosevic headed an equaliser after 71 minutes, Malaga took just four minutes to respond and get a winner, Miguel Ange Ilozano connecting with a Gerardo Garcia cross.

Real Betis 1 Athletic Bilbao 1, Deportivo 5 Atletico Madrid 1, Villarreal 1 Real Zaragoza 1, Real Madrid 2 Espanyol 1, Valladolid 0 Racing Santander 4, Real Mallorca 1 Osasuna 1, Murcia 1 Albacete 0, Malaga 2 Celta Vigo 1, Barcelona 0 Valencia 1, Real Sociedad 1 Sevilla 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Valencia	6	5	1	0	9	1	16
2 Deportivo	6	5	0	1	15	5	15
3 Real Madrid	6	4	1	1	15	8	13
4 Osasuna	6	3	2	1	8	5	11
5 Villarreal	6	2	4	0	7	4	10
6 Betis	6	2	3	1	7	5	9
7 Sevilla	6	2	3	1	6	5	9
8 Real Sociedad	6	2	3	1	7	4	9
9 Barcelona	6	2	3	1	5	4	9
10 Athletic	6	2	2	2	8	6	8
11 Racing	6	2	2	2	7	5	8
12 Valladolid	6	2	1	3	9	16	7
13 Malaga	6	2	1	3	5	7	7
14 Murcia	6	1	3	2	5	8	6
15 Celta	6	1	3	2	7	9	6
16 Mallorca	6	1	2	3	5	10	5
17 Zaragoza	6	1	1	4	4	8	4
18 Atlético	6	1	1	4	2	10	4
19 Albacete	6	1	0	5	3	9	3
20 Espanyol	6	0	2	4	7	12	2

FIXTURES

Sunday 19th October

Barcelona	v	Deportivo
Atlético	v	Mallorca
Osasuna	v	Murcia
Albacete	v	R Sociedad
Sevilla	v	Betis
Athletic	v	Villarreal
Zaragoza	v	Valladolid
Racing	v	Málaga
Celta	v	R Madrid
Valencia	v	Espanyol



Dutch Eredivisie

Ajax posted a 3-1 victory at Groningen despite awaking to discover that their club-bus had been destroyed by fire.

The visitors had been stunned when Arvid Smit opened the scoring after 20 minutes - but their lead lasted only six minutes as Swedish forward Zlatan Ibrahimovic equalised for the Amsterdam side. Nine minutes from time Wesley Sonck gave Ajax the lead before Romanian youngster Nicolae Mitea sealed Groningen's first home defeat since 3 November last year.

Feyenoord, in fifth, struggled against RBC Roosendaal despite winning 2-0 and going ahead through an early goal from Robin van Persie. They did not make absolutely sure of the points until stoppage time through substitute Anthony Lurling.

ADO Den Haag were taught a lesson in finished by defending Dutch Champions PSV Eindhoven who cruised to an emphatic 0-4 win.

Wilfred Bouma put the visitors in front in the second minute, and that stayed the scoreline until the 54th minute when John de Jong doubled PSV's lead.

Dennis Rommedahl added a third in the 65th minute before Arjen Robben completed the rout with eight minutes remaining.

Two goals - one right at the start and another in the dying seconds - earned AZ Alkmaar a 2-0 win over NEC and put them level on points with PSV.

The side from Alkmaar made an electric start and Peter Wijker put them in front in the opening minute of the match.

The visitors from Nijmegen did not give up and made a game of it right until the end but a penalty in injury time from Ali Elkhattabi put AZ on 16 points with PSV.

Richard Knopper's first half goal means Heerenveen leap-frog opponents RKC in the Eredivisie table and maintain their perfect home record.

The striker scored what proved to be only goal of a tight match at the Abe Lenstra in first-half stoppage time, sealing Heerenveen's fifth straight win this term.

The result means RKC have now lost three of their four matches on the road.

Roda JC pulled off an impressive victory against Willem II on Saturday with a goal in each half settling the match.

Edrissa Sonko gave Roda JC the lead just eight minutes before the interval.

The visitors from Kerkrade then sealed the points when Aruna Kone scored his side's second goal three minutes from time.

A late rally enabled Utrecht to steal all three points from the grasp of NAC Breda.

It had looked good for the home side when Johan Elmander broke the deadlock on the stroke of half-time.

However, with 11 minutes remaining the Amstel Cup holders hit back when Donny De Groot bagged an equaliser. Just two minutes later Utrecht took the lead and the points when Marcel Koning put the ball through his own net with what turned out to be the decider.



Wilfred Bouma opened PSV's scoring account with a well-taken goal that saw of his side smash Den Haag for four.

The highest scoring game of the round saw FC Twente secure a 5-3 win away to Vitesse Arnhem.

The drama got underway in the first minute when home defender Purrel Frankel gave away an own-goal and the visitors' lead was doubled nine minutes later through Collins John.

Michael Dingsdag grabbed a goal back for the hosts in the 35th minute and two minutes later Vitesse made it 2-2 through Tim Cornelisse.

ADO Den Haag 0 PSV Eindhoven 4, AZ Alkmaar 2 NEC Nijmegen 0, Heerenveen 1 RKC 0, Willem II 0 Roda JC 2, NAC Breda 1 Utrecht 2, Vitesse Arnhem 3 Twente 5, Volendam 2 Zwolle 2, Groningen 1 Ajax 3, Feyenoord 2 RBC Roosendaal 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Ajax	7	6	0	1	19	7	18
2 PSV	7	5	1	1	19	6	16
3 Alkmaar	7	5	1	1	13	5	16
4 Heerenveen	7	5	0	2	8	5	15
5 Feyenoord	7	4	1	2	12	8	13
6 Waalwijk	7	4	0	3	11	7	12
7 Roda	7	2	4	1	8	6	10
8 Willem II	7	3	1	3	7	16	10
9 NEC	7	3	0	4	9	12	9
10 Twente	7	3	0	4	11	15	9
11 Utrecht	7	2	2	3	7	9	8
12 Roosendaal	7	2	2	3	7	9	8
13 Groningen	7	2	2	3	5	8	8
14 NAC	7	2	1	4	9	10	7
15 Volendam	7	1	3	3	9	11	6
16 Vitesse	7	1	2	4	10	14	5
17 Den Haag	7	1	2	4	5	12	5

GREEK ETHNIKI KATIGORIA

Hellenic League Panathinaikos appeared to be suffering a Champions League hangover as they laboured to a 0-1 victory against Iraklis.

It was not a vintage display from Panathinaikos, who were held to a 1-1 draw by Rangers in Europe in midweek, but a 75th-minute goal from Dimitris Papadopoulos was enough to collect all three points and ensure his side remained in charge domestically after six games of the season.

Nery Alberto Castillo hit a hat-trick as second-placed Olympiakos brushed aside OFI Crete 4-1 in a thoroughly one-sided encounter. The Uruguayan midfielder player opened the scoring from close range in the 19th minute, doubled the lead in the 40th and picked up number three soon after the break. Brazilian playmaker Giovanni made it 4-0 before Masia Bikovski salvaged some pride for the visitors.

Egaleo chalked up their fourth consecutive win to go third thanks to a narrow 1-0 defeat of Proodeftiki. A Giorgos Barkoglou header settled the encounter in the 63rd minute. PAOK, now in fourth, were held

to a 1-1 draw by Xanthi, who surprised the home side as early as the fourth minute when they were awarded a penalty after Deniz Baikara was brought down and Guenther Friesenbichler stepped up to convert. Dimitris Markos nevertheless saved some blushes with the leveller.

Panionios GS's robust start to the season continued unabated as they remained in fifth position thanks to a 2-0 defeat of Ionikos courtesy of goals from Juan Martin Parodi and a penalty neatly slotted in by Christos Kontis.

A position behind are AEK Athens, who were shocked at home 1-2, their first league defeat of the season, at the hand of newly-promoted Halkidona.

A spectacular lob from Dimosthenis Manousakis gave the visitors a lead that was doubled by Giorgos Korakakis. Ilija Ivic pulled one back for his shellshocked side in the 73rd minute.

Elsewhere, Akraitos and Paniliakos fought out a 2-2 draw while Fanis Gekas was delighted to collect a hat-trick for Kallithea, who showed flair in a 4-0 demolition of Aris Thessaloniki.



Australian keeper Kyriakos Tochroglou had a sound game for PAOK last week.

Proodeftiki 0 Egaleo 1, Akraitos 2 Paniliakos 2, Iraklis 0 Panathinaikos 1, Kallithea 4 Aris 0, Olympiakos 4 OFI 1, AEK Athens 2 Halkidona 2, Ionikos 0 Panionios 1, PAOK 1 Xanthi 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Panathinaikos	6	5	1	0	12	4	16
2 Olympiakos	6	5	0	1	17	3	15
3 Egaleo	6	4	0	2	7	3	12
4 PAOK	6	3	2	1	9	5	11
5 Panionios	6	2	4	0	9	7	10
6 AEK	6	2	3	1	11	8	9
7 Iraklis	6	2	2	2	8	6	8
8 Halkidona	6	2	2	2	8	9	8
9 OFI	6	2	1	3	8	14	7
10 Aris	6	2	1	3	7	9	7
11 Kallithea	6	1	3	2	11	10	6
12 Proodeftiki	6	1	3	2	3	6	6
13 Paniliakos	6	1	2	3	8	11	5
14 Akraitos	6	1	2	3	5	14	5
15 Ionikos	6	1	0	5	3	11	3
16 Xanthi	6	0	2	4	4	10	2

Scottish Premier League

Celtic shattered the 100 percent record of champions Rangers in the Scottish premier league when they beat their Glasgow rivals 1-0 at Ibrox to go top of the table.

Celtic's goal came less than 20 seconds into the second half when striker John Hartson's effort was deflected into the net by Rangers' Georgian defender Zurab Khizanishvili.

Rangers had won all seven premier league games this season but Celtic's victory lifted them a point clear of their arch-rivals on 22 points after eight matches.

Martin O'Neill's Celtic side fully deserved their victory in a scrappy first Old Firm encounter of the season with Alan Thompson, Henrik Larsson and Hartson all going close to scoring further goals for the visitors.

Celtic's third successive win over Rangers and their fourth at Ibrox in six visits was achieved despite having several defenders injured or suspended.

Chris Sutton reverted from attack to defence and was outstanding alongside Stanislav Varga as Celtic defended manfully to keep Rangers, who lacked imagination in the vital areas, out in the second half.

Celtic carved out the first real chance on 10 minutes when the outstanding Larsson skipped away from home captain Craig Moore and Thompson's shot from the Swede's cutback brought an excellent stop from Stefan Klos.

Celtic then cut Rangers open again on 41 minutes when Stilian Petrov created space to supply Hartson but Klos again produced a fine stop by plunging to his right.

But Rangers lost Moore due to injury at halftime and were caught cold at the restart as Larsson showed all his experience to pick out Hartson.

His chip took a wicked deflection and left Klos clutching at thin air as it dropped into the net off the underside of the bar.

Hearts remained in third place on 14 points after coming from two goals down to draw 2-2 at home against Dundee, while fourth-placed Dunfermline Athletic, two points further

back, were held 0-0 at Livingston.

Striker Graham Weir and Scotland's Steven Pressley scored in the final 17 minutes for Hearts after Spaniard Nacho Novo had put Dundee ahead early and defender Gavin Rae increased the visitors' lead just past the hour.

Two goals from Derek Adams gave Motherwell a 0-2 win over Dundee United and killed off the home side's hopes of going five league matches unbeaten.

Adams stepped up to convert a spot-kick before the former Ross County man made sure of the points with seconds remaining when he took advantage of a slip-up by Bullock to lob the ball into the empty net.

Aberdeen boss Steve Paterson silenced his critics as his side won 3-1 to record their first win at Kilmarnock in eight years.

Australian striker David Zdrilic opening the scoring on two minutes and Paul Tosh madder it two after gaining possession on the edge of the box and ghosting past three Killie defenders before slipping the ball into the net.

Kevin McNaughton and Paul Tosh set-up Scot Booth for the third to seal the points.

Hibernian stung Partick with a last-gasp winner from Grant Brebner to claim maximum points from a dull 1-0 win at Firhill.

Both sides had been evenly matched as Partick chased their first win of the season, but Hibs enjoyed a stroke of luck to leave Thistle rooted to the bottom of the ladder.



Henning Berg of Rangers challenges John Hartson of Celtic during the the Scottish Premier division match between Rangers and Celtic at Ibrox Park.

Rangers 0 Celtic 1, Hearts 2 Dundee 2, Livingston 0 Dunfermline 0, Dundee Utd 0 Motherwell 2, Kilmarnock 1 Aberdeen 3, Partick Thistle 0 Hibernian 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Celtic	8	7	1	0	19	3	22
Rangers	8	7	0	1	26	7	21
Hearts	8	4	2	2	11	8	14
Dunfermline	8	3	3	2	6	7	12
Dundee	8	3	2	3	11	10	11
Motherwell	8	3	2	3	9	11	11
Hibernian	8	3	2	3	8	11	11
Livingston	8	2	3	3	8	10	9
Kilmarnock	8	2	2	4	8	15	8
Aberdeen	8	2	1	5	9	15	7
Dundee Utd	8	1	2	5	5	16	5
Partick	8	0	2	6	7	14	2

WORLD



French Ligue 1

Monaco sit atop of the French Ligue 1 standings after clinging on to beat En Avant Guingamp 2-1.

Two superb first-half goals by Monaco's Ludovic Giuly put the leaders firmly in charge at En Avant Guingamp but a red card for defender Gael Givet just before halftime changed the game. The home side scored within eight minutes of the restart through Nicolas Gousse but Monaco held for their ninth successive game without defeat.

Nantes beat Stade Rennes 1-0 thanks to a rifling 25-metre shot by Algerian midfielder Fodil Hadjadj midway through the first half.

Marseille striker Didier Drogba was on target in his team's 3-1 win against Bastia. The win keeps Marseille a point behind Monaco.

Ivory Coast international Drogba opened the scoring after 15 minutes before Steve Marlet made it 2-0 just four minutes later.

Bastia pulled a goal back four minutes into the second half however Marseille made sure of three points in the 67th minute when Czech defender Rudolf Skacel registered his first goal for the club.

Sochaux's 29 match unbeaten run at home came crashing to an end as Paris St Germain rolled to a 0-1.

A 21st-minute goal from Portuguese striker Pauleta, his fourth of the season, guaranteed PSG's fourth successive win.

Champions Lyon got the better of Ajaccio 2-4 in a high scoring battle thanks to a hat-trick from Congo's Peguy Luyindula.

The visitors took an early lead through Luyindula after a long kick by goalkeeper Gregory Coupet was laid into his path by Brazilian Giovane Elber. Ajaccio equalised in first half injury time when Bernard Diomedé headed in as the Lyon defence stood and watched.

Luyindula hit two more goals in the second half on a terrible pitch to put Lyon clear of danger before Dalibor Mitrovic scored a consolation goal for the home side in injury time.

Nice were held at home 0-0 by Strasbourg despite both teams creating a number of scoring chances.

Midfielder Everson could have won it for the home side in the final seconds when his shot from more than 30 metres was tipped on to the bar by Richard Dutruel.

A hat-trick to French international Djibril Cisse secured Auxerre a 3-0 win over Lille.

A brace in the five minutes before halftime put the game beyond Lille before Cisse added another in the second half. Cisse, who scored two in Auxerre's last home game, stabbed home the first, hammered the second and a fine move ended with Yann Lachuer setting him up from close range for his third.

Le Mans are still without a win and with only one goal to their name after a 0-0 draw with Bordeaux in what was a match of few thrills.

Lens are having an up-and-down season and this was definitely one of the down days after Metz prevailed 0-2.

Thrashed 4-0 by Lyon in their last game, Lens were outplayed by Metz who scored twice in the second half through striker Toifilou Maoulida — the second a superb 25-metre effort in

injury time. Lens ended with nine men after Senegal's Papa Bouba Diop and Cameroon's Rigobert Song were sent off in the second half.

Montpellier was made to pay for a missed penalty as Toulouse came from behind to snatch a 2-2 draw.

Fode Mansare missed from the spot on 10 minutes after smacking the ball against the bar before the home side ahead took the lead thanks to a far post header by Achille Emana.



Peguy Luyindula scored a hat-trick in Lyon's impressive four-two away win over Ajaccio.

Montpellier were given another penalty shortly before halftime when Toulouse striker Christophe Avezac, also at fault for the first spot kick, brought down Habib Bamogo. This time Bamogo took the kick and scored. Bamogo added a second before Cedric Faure equalised with the third penalty of the night in the 75th minute.

Nantes 1 Stade Rennes 0, Sochaux 0 Paris St Germain 1, En Avant Guingamp 1 Monaco 2, Ac Ajaccio 2 Olympique Lyon 4, Nice 0 Strasbourg 0, Auxerre 3 Lille 0, Le Mans 0 Bordeaux 0, Lens 0 Metz 2, Toulouse 2 Montpellier 2, Marseille 3 Bastia 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Monaco	9	7	1	1	18	8	22
2 Marseille	9	7	0	2	16	5	21
3 Lyon	9	5	2	2	16	7	17
4 Nantes	9	5	1	3	9	5	16
5 PSG	9	5	1	3	11	9	16
6 Nice	9	4	3	2	10	7	15
7 Strasbourg	9	4	2	3	12	10	14
8 Auxerre	9	4	1	4	14	11	13
9 Sochaux	9	4	1	4	11	10	13
10 Bastia	9	4	1	4	11	13	13
11 Lens	9	4	1	4	5	11	13
12 Rennes	9	3	3	3	8	6	12
13 Lille	9	3	3	3	9	10	12
14 Metz	9	3	2	4	8	7	11
15 Bordeaux	9	3	2	4	7	8	11
16 Ajaccio	9	3	1	5	10	14	10
17 Montpellier	9	2	3	4	10	13	9
18 Toulouse	9	1	3	5	5	14	6
19 Guingamp	9	1	2	6	7	15	5
20 Mans	9	0	3	6	1	15	3



Belgium First Division

Leaders Anderlecht dropped their first league points of the season in a 1-1 draw at home to champions Club Brugge.

Anderlecht's lead at the top has been cut by two points to five after Racing Genk moved up to second place with 17 points after a 3-1 home win with 10 men over lowly Lokeren.

Bruges slipped to third place with 15 points but at least managed to peg back the runaway leaders and keep the title race on the boil as Anderlecht threatened to kill off their rivals.

Anderlecht took the lead just before the half-hour mark thanks to a goal from Aruna Dindane, but eight minutes from time Andres Mendoza grabbed the equaliser to silence the home fans.

Anderlecht opened the scoring through Dindane in the 28th minute as they piled on the pressure in the first half and forced Dany Verlinden to make some excellent saves.

But they could not keep up the pace and Bruges, who were starting to look more dangerous, created a couple of chances before coach Hugo Broos made some changes that helped turn the match.

On 71 minutes he replaced Croatia forward Ivica Mornar, the goalscorer against Bayern, with midfielder Zetterberg and brought on defender Olivier Doll for midfielder Marc Hendriks.

Anderlecht's more defensive approach was their undoing as Bruges took the game to them and 11 minutes later Andres Mendoza won a duel against De Boeck to level the scores at 1-1.

Standard Liege ended a run of three defeats with a thumping 4-0 victory at Royal Antwerp that moved them up two places to sixth in the table thanks to an impressive performance from Portuguese midfielder Almani Moreira.

Emile Mpenza scored his first goal for the club after 15 minutes as he outsprung the defence and latched on to a pass from Alexandros Kaklamanos.

The Greek headed the second goal himself just before half-time after meeting a fine cross from former Aberdeen midfielder Roberto Bisconti.

Antwerp tried to rally after the break but could not get back into the game and replacement Aliyu Datti scored in the 89th and 90th minutes.

Beveren 1 Charleroi 0, Westerlo 2 Heffden 0, Gent 0 Mouscron 0, La Louviere 1 Mons 1, Genk 3 Lokeren 1, Sint-Truiden 0 Germinal Bischof 0, Antwerp 0 Standard 4, Cercle Brugge 0 Lierse 0, Anderlecht 1 Club Brugge 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Anderlecht	8	7	1	0	26	6	22
2 Genk	8	5	2	1	16	7	17
3 Club Brugge	8	4	3	1	17	8	15
4 Standard	8	4	1	3	12	8	13
5 Mouscron	8	3	4	1	14	9	13
6 AA Gent	8	3	4	1	13	9	13
7 Sint-Truiden	8	3	4	1	9	7	13
8 Lierse	8	3	3	2	10	9	12
9 Westerlo	8	3	3	2	12	12	12
10 La Louvière	8	2	5	1	9	6	11
11 Germinal Beerschot	8	2	4	2	7	5	10
12 Cercle Brugge	8	2	4	2	3	6	10
13 Beveren	8	3	0	5	10	16	9
14 Antwerp	8	2	1	5	4	18	7
15 Mons	8	0	5	3	6	13	5



FIFA WORLD RANKING

1 Brazil	834	1	0	1	0	51 Wales	558	50	-1	52	1
2 France	814	2	0	2	0	52 Côte d'Ivoire	555	59	7	64	12
3 Spain	762	2	-1	3	0	53 New Zealand	550	51	-2	49	-4
4 Argentina	754	5	1	5	1	54 Trinidad and Tobago	549	52	-2	47	-7
5 Netherlands	752	6	1	6	1	55 Slovakia	544	53	-2	55	0
6 Germany	745	4	-2	4	-2	55 Venezuela	544	63	8	69	14
7 Turkey	733	8	1	9	2	54 Austria	544	61	6	54	-1
8 England	727	7	-1	7	-1	58 Congo DR	541	65	7	65	7
9 United States	717	10	1	10	1	59 Iceland	538	70	11	58	-1
10 Czech Republic	712	13	3	15	5	59 Scotland	538	64	5	58	-1
11 Italy	711	12	1	13	2	61 Zimbabwe	536	55	-6	56	-5
11 Mexico	711	9	-2	8	-3	62 Estonia	534	61	-1	60	-2
13 Denmark	710	10	-3	12	-1	63 Cuba	532	56	-7	71	8
14 Ireland Republic	703	15	1	14	0	64 Iraq	531	56	-8	53	-11
15 Portugal	692	14	-1	11	-4	65 Thailand	529	59	-6	66	1
16 Cameroon	691	18	2	16	0	65 Guatemala	529	58	-7	78	13
17 Belgium	672	16	-1	17	0	67 Zambia	526	69	2	66	-1
18 Costa Rica	663	17	-1	21	3	68 Algeria	522	66	-2	68	0
18 Sweden	663	20	2	24	6	69 Ghana	513	67	-2	60	-9
20 Paraguay	657	19	-1	18	-2	70 Chile	510	73	3	84	14
21 Romania	652	27	6	24	3	70 China PR	510	68	-2	63	-7
22 Colombia	651	39	17	37	15	72 Burkina Faso	508	83	11	75	3
23 Norway	648	24	1	26	3	73 Mali	505	74	1	73	0
24 Japan	643	23	-1	22	-2	74 Qatar	499	71	-3	62	-12
24 Korea Republic	643	21	-3	20	-4	75 Bosnia-Herzegovina	495	72	-3	87	12
26 Croatia	640	26	0	32	6	76 Kenya	493	78	2	80	4
27 Serbia and Montenegro	636	22	-5	19	-8	77 Jordan	489	75	-2	77	0
28 Senegal	633	29	1	27	-1	78 Canada	482	77	-1	70	-8
29 Slovenia	628	36	7	36	7	79 Latvia	481	79	0	78	-1
30 Russia	627	25	-5	22	-8	80 Peru	480	81	1	82	2
31 Nigeria	626	32	1	29	-2	81 Angola	479	86	5	76	-5
31 Uruguay	626	28	-3	28	-3	82 Belarus	478	76	-6	74	-8
33 South Africa	619	31	-2	30	-3	83 Cyprus	474	88	5	80	-3
33 Greece	619	45	12	48	15	84 Haiti	473	80	-4	71	-13
33 Poland	619	29	-4	33	0	85 El Salvador	469	82	-3	94	9
36 Ecuador	616	33	-3	31	-5	86 Togo	468	92	6	85	-1
37 Morocco	613	38	1	35	-2	86 Georgia	468	84	-2	90	4
38 Bulgaria	612	35	-3	42	4	88 Albania	466	89	1	93	5
39 Egypt	606	44	5	39	0	89 Indonesia	465	84	-5	110	21
40 Switzerland	605	43	3	44	4	90 Macedonia FYR	461	93	3	85	-5
41 Iran	600	34	-7	33	-8	91 Kuwait	455	87	-4	83	-8
42 Honduras	596	37	-5	40	-2	91 Libya	455	97	6	104	13
42 Tunisia	596	40	-2	41	-1	93 Syria	445	90	-3	91	-2
44 Israel	593	40	-4	46	2	94 Barbados	442	94	0	99	5
45 Finland	585	45	0	43	-2	95 United Arab Emirates	439	90	-5	89	-6
46 Saudi Arabia	581	42	-4	38	-8	95 Vietnam SR	439	95	0	108	13
47 Ukraine	579	47	0	45	-2	95 Singapore	439	98	3	118	23
48 Jamaica	571	48	0	51	3	98 Liberia	438	96	-2	88	-10
49 Hungary	570	54	5	56	7	99 Lithuania	427	99	0	100	1
50 Australia	562	49	-1	50	0	100 Congo	423	100	0	97	-3

Dodd Bags Hat-Trick Against Football Kingz



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